YUUSHA PARTY NO KAWAII KO GA ITA NO DE, KOKUHAKU SHITE MITA
There was a cute girl in the Hero Party, so I tried confessing.
Volume 1 (First half, chapters 1-19)

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Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 1

告白してみた

I tried to confess.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, and Flyingjam

"Now I've gone and done it..."

I muttered in a large featureless room.

I had been reincarnated as a demon.
I was originally a human named Segawa Youki.
I was given a cheat-like power upon my reincarnation.
However I was not reborn a hero, instead I am a demon.

At some point during the fight, I got too into my role as a mini-boss and went into full blown Chuuni-byou* mode, overacting with passionate haughty pride as an evil villain the likes of which you'd find in cartoon shows and games.
Now before me laid the defeated Hero Party.
The Hero was taken out with my Chuuni-magic, the mage ruthlessly knocked about, the swordsman squashed with spells, and the uninjured but unconscious cleric all laid there.

"And they only made it halfway through the Demon Castle."

This room was the midpoint of the castle, after this there were still rooms with the higher ranked officers and then the Demon Lord himself.

I scratched my head as I thought about what I should do.
If the Hero doesn't defeat the Demon Lord the world will never be at peace.
If the Hero Party is wiped out in the middle of the castle, surely the world would fall into chaos.

"I suppose for now I should dump them in the nearby village to recover."

As a former human I knew it would be bad if the world couldn't achieve peace.
But I didn't really have a good reason for abandoning my post.
I seized this opportunity to heal up the Hero Party.

Guess I'll start with the Hero. *"Take this, Holy Sword Excalibur!"*

He yelled that Chuuni-like phrase as he swung his shining sword at me, and I responded in kind with my own Chuuni spell.
I got overexcited.

After finishing with the Hero, it was the mage girl's turn.

Even before the battle she was batting eyelashes at the Hero. I felt she was kind of a bitch so I relentlessly attacked her.
I don’t discriminate between genders.

Third up is the swordsman. He came off as the cool silent type and didn't lose to the Hero in terms of awesomeness.

It kinda pissed me off so as soon as the battle started I made him disappear with 《Dark Magic: Vanish Wave》.

When I say 'disappear', I meant he *literally* became invisible. While the Hero and Mage were stunned by finding themselves alone I took that opening to take them out.

"Now last one up...is..."

The cleric girl.
When the swordsman disappeared she wasn't fazed and kept her eyes on me from a distance.
She used good judgement and didn't let her guard down, so after I took out the swordsman I got her from behind with a sleeper hold until she lost consciousness.

"She doesn't have any physical wounds, so I guess she doesn't need any healing...wait..."

Still, just in case, since she's lying face down, I should roll her over and just make sure...

"...This is bad, she’s right in my strike zone."
There lay a beautiful girl who was perfectly my type.

(Full-view)

"Hmm, should I take her as a prisoner of war? ...But if I do that she'll probably be upset. And as a former Japanese citizen, prisoners and slaves are a little out of my comfort zone."

I was just a mini-boss and still had to answer to the Demon Lord and other superior officers too.
Well, if it came down to a fight I would win, but...

"Aaaa...farewell my angel..."

I ordered my underlings to take the Hero Party to the nearest village.
I watched with regret as they carried her away.

Three days later...

"Come at me! ...You...umm..."

Looks like they didn't bother to remember the name of a mini-boss.

If you want a rematch at least gather some intelligence on your enemy.

"Mwahahahaha! You came even though it's hopeless, Heroes. An officer in the Demon Lord's army, under Zekiel-sama's command, I am the Dark Knight Corps 5th Squad Executive Officer Youki, and I will send you back to hell!"

I was in full blown Chuuni-mode putting together all my low-ranked positions for my self-introduction.

"Aah, I see...so that was your name. Prepare yourself, Youki!"

The Hero Party readied for battle.

In the midst of the fighting off the heroes I kept glancing over to the cleric girl. We finally made eye contact and she glared at me.

"Stop taking me lightly, Youki!"

The Hero caught me looking away and wanted me to focus on the fight instead.

"Ah, sorry sorry. You have my full attention now."

As I thought, it was a bad idea to use the Max Level Dark Magic: Endless Dark.
The result, obliteration.
Total party wipeout.

"...And, I've done it again..."

I looked over at the cleric girl.
Should I have put up a magic barrier around her?
Looks like she was knocked out with just a couple light wounds.

"Thank goodness."

After being relieved I set to work healing her with magic.
Feeling charitable I healed the rest of the party too. Soon after I order my underlings to take them back to the nearby village again.

For a month after that, the Hero Party kept returning and the battle endlessly repeated itself.
On top of that, the Demon Lord and other higher-ups started thinking the Hero Party must be weak.

The Hero Party was by no means weak.
I just exceeded the norm by a huge margin.

Likely if I wasn't here the Hero Party would wipe the floor with the Superior Officers and the Demon Lord.
That's just how powerful they were.

These days I was starting to think it was my fault the world would never be at peace.
I was thinking about that as I laid sprawled out on the floor of my room.
The Hero Party would be here soon, should I just let them through?

"But man that girl is so fine — When I watch her during the fights she's pretty attentive to her teammates. And it feels like she has such a pleasant disposition. ...Maybe I'll give the next battle a try after all."

I made up my mind.

A few days later...

"Today is the day we'll bring you to your knees, Youki!"

The Hero Party finally made it here.
And Hero-kun finally remembered my name.
For about a month if I didn't give a self-introduction he would yell everything *but* my name.

"Yuuga, let's hurry and defeat this boring looking demon."

So the Hero's name is Yuuga, is it?
The ones being defeated in a hurry is you lot.
And that boring comment was going too far, you Mage bitch.

“...”

The swordsman drew his blade in silence and pointed it in my direction. Forget about playing the cool, silent type, just say something will you?

"Let's give it all we've got everyone!"

...I gotta make sure I look my best. I can't let her see me looking shabby. After double checking myself I say the lines I've been using for the last month.

"Mwahahahaha! You came again even though it's hopeless, Heroes. An officer in the Demon Lord's army, under Zekiel-sama's command, I am the Dark Knight Corps 5th Squad Executive Officer Youki, and I will send you back to hell!"

...Lately I've been so embarrassed I could die.
Though the Hero Party hasn't realized it yet.
They readied themselves for another battle.

Well, since I have my cheat there's no way I could lose, and little by little the Hero Party weakens.
After letting the battle go on just long enough I seize the perfect moment and propose a deal to them.

"Heroes! Surely you've realized it by now? You can never win against me."

For the past month they've been coming to the Demon Castle and been repeatedly defeated.
Ever so slightly they're coming to realize.
By themselves, they cannot win against this demon.

"...So what?! For the suffering masses, and for my friends who believe in me, I cannot lose to the likes of you!"

Even though he knows, he can't afford to back down.
That's why he had to say that.
Still, the Hero Party is looking worse for the wear.
If we were to continue, the fight would end up as it always has with a total party wipeout.

"All the more reason to strike a deal. If you agree to my terms, I shall let you pass."

The Hero Party stopped in their tracks and looked at me.
I was embarrassed because *she* was looking at me too, but made sure not to show it on my face.

"...What do you want?"

And I answer,

"Leave that girl here. If you do that, the rest of you may continue on."

I pointed towards the cleric girl.
After I finished, the party's reactions were mixed.

The Hero was angry and yelling, the swordsman was weighing the options, the mage was probably thinking she'd have one less rival, and couldn't quite contain her laughter.
And, the girl in question was looking resigned.

"Don't screw with me! There's no way we could do that! Cecilia is one of our precious comrades."

"You really wanna do that? Then the deal is off. Once again you'll start over in the nearby village. In that time how many more humans will be attacked by demons? Who knows just what I'll do..."

No really, what *would* I do? After all I haven't been given a mission to attack that village even once.

"Yuuga, let's take the deal."

As expected of the Mage bitch. Can't pass up a chance to get rid of your rival.

"Mikana?! What are you saying..."

"That demon, he may have a plain face, but his power is monstrous. It's vexing, but we can't win against him no matter how many times we try. And now that very opponent is gonna let us by with such a sweet deal. And Cecilia is strong, she won't be taken down so easily. We'll go defeat the other demons and the Demon Lord and come right back here, so there's nothing to worry about."

That bitch of a Mage was spouting shit like 'Let's believe in our friends' to make the hero take the bait.
You know if the tables were turned and *she* was the one being sacrificed she'd kick up a huge fuss.

The swordsman watched the proceedings silently, waiting for the outcome.
Even in this situation he wouldn't break character.

The Mage bitch continued to persuade her team for the next few minutes, and the result was...

"...Fine.
We'll....leave Cecilia here."

Looks like the deal is sealed.
It was a bitter decision.
He was so frustrated with himself his nails drew blood in his clenched hands.

"Heeeh, then you may pass."

I opened the door for the party that had dwindled down to three members. The hero kept glancing back at the cleric, wordlessly promising to return for her. Once they were through I shut the door.

Now it was just us. I started to get butterflies in my stomach.

"...Even though I know there's no chance of winning, I'll never give up. My power may not be able to even scratch you, but I will struggle ‘til my last breath!"

She readied her staff and let loose the intermediate-level Light spell 'Holy Laser'.

"..Hey, hold up a minute! Time out, time out!"

I didn't really want to start a fight with her.
I cancelled out her magic and tried to appeal to her while holding up my hands.

"...What are you plotting? A trick to get me to lower my guard? Even without such a cheap trick you could easily kill me."

"No, you're mistaken. I swear!"

I only-

"Then what do you want? Making them leave the Healer behind, surely you plan to trap them ahead and whittle them down to nothing!"

I wouldn't do something dumb like that.

"If I was gonna kill you I would have done it already!
I have business with you."

I just-

"Then you plan to kill only me?"

"I fell in love with you at first sight. Please go out with me!"

-wanted to confess.

"What?!"

I felt relieved to finally say it.
On the other hand, she was left dumbfounded by this turn of events.

***Chuunibyou** - You'll find many times in this novel that Youki goes into his "Chuunibyou" mode (sometimes shortened to Chuuni or Chuu2). For those of you unfamiliar with this term, here is a short explanation (as it pertains to this novel).
Chuunibyou literally translates to 8th grader syndrome (or 2nd year of middle school syndrome), and indicates children around age 12-13 that act out crazy delusional fantasies as though they were real. It's like playing make believe to make yourself seem strange, special, mysterious, and the like. While it's mildly expected of middle schoolers, as you get older you're supposed to grow out of it, so those that continue to 'suffer' from it are often looked down upon and found embarrassing (even Youki gets embarrassed of his own Chuuni actions). Being in a fantasy world where demons, heroes, and magic are real, Youki sometimes can't help but act the part of the nefarious evil villain, or the love-struck romanticist, saying and doing things to fulfill his preconceived notions of how these roles should be played out. When he does return to reality soon after he realizes just how silly he was being, but still can't help it.

Some anime that deal with Chuunibyou are "Chuunibyou demo Koi ga Shitai!" (Love, Chunibyo & Other Delusions), and Inou-Battle wa Nichijou-kei no Naka de (When Supernatural Battles Became Commonplace) if you want to see it acted out.
For a more in depth explanation of *Chuunibyou*, check out this article. (Youki is the "Evil Eye"-type Chuuni mentioned here)

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 2

玉砕してみた

I tried to die honorably.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, and Flyingjam

Let's start from the conclusion. I was rejected. It was over with a single word — 'No'.

This is a room in the middle of the Demon Castle.
Indeed, this is the room I, the reincarnated Segawa Youki (now just Youki), guard.
Just what was I doing in the middle of this room?

"...Rejected. It's over. I wanna die..."

I was hunched over, hugging my knees and drawing letters on the floor.
Including failures from my previous life, just how many times have I been turned down?

"Um...excuse me..."

Next to me was a flustered girl in cleric clothes, whose name I heard to be Cecilia.

"...hahaha..."

The laughter just started welling up.
Humans get rejected so many times over the course of their lives.
When I was human, I was also rejected a lot.
That's why I was feeling the way I am now.

"Excuse me, are you all right? ....Wait, what am I doing, he's the enemy!"

I thought she was cheering me up, but she suddenly readied herself for battle again.
She's so kind. Her awkward kindness felt bittersweet..
I almost forgot that she sees me as her enemy.
Why is that?
It's because I'm a demon.
I hope I'm reborn as a human next time.
If I was human...would my boring face still make it hopeless?

She pointed her staff at me.

Looks like she's ready to take me down.
I can die happy if it's at my beloved's hands.
There's nothing left for me in this world anyway.

"《Judgement Cross》"

A pillar of light in the shape of a holy cross came at me.
A senior level light-type magic.
Even with my cheat, if I don't put up any resistance, I'll probably die.

"Aah, please let me be reborn as a human next time."

I closed my eyes in prayer.
…
……
……
……?

No matter how long I waited, the impact never came, so I hesitantly opened my eyes.

The magic she used was gone. Did she cancel her magic because I didn't do anything?

"Haah..."

But the burden on your body is huge if you forcibly cancel it. It was evident she had done just that as she was collapsed on her knees and breathing heavily.

"...Why didn't you resist? After a month of battling you I've come to understand some of the extent of your power. You should have easily dodged or countered that level of magic!"

She recovered from the backlash and asked me that.
The answer is quite simple.

"Since you turned down my confession, I felt like dying."

"Don't toy with me!"

Even when angry she's still cute...Er, I mean...I thought it best to give her a candid answer.

"I have nothing left to live for. I've lived my whole life in this room you know? If I went outside I'd have to attack human towns for no reason at all, and because I didn’t want to do that, I never left..."

I still had all my memories of my previous life in tact, so I was immensely reluctant to do things like that to humans.

"...I've never met a demon like you before. All the demons I've ever seen were ruthless and cruel, treating humans like garbage."

Seems like what I said was pretty strange.
As she said, most demons act like that.
However, I was an exception.

"That's 'cause I was originally human."

Nothing I said was untrue.

"Wha-? Do you mean to tell me there's some dark magic out there that can change humans into demons?"

Her eyes were open wide in shock.
She seems to have misunderstood what I meant.
There is no such magic.
Even with my cheat I couldn't do that.

"Ah, no no! I'm a human who was reincarnated. In my previous life I was a human."

Suddenly she stared at my coldly.
Even I could tell she was thinking 'What is this guy talking about?'

"...Wh-what? It's true! I was born on Earth as Segawa Youki. I died in a traffic accident."

She probably wouldn't understand things like 'Earth' and 'traffic accident', but I still did my best to convince her I had died once before.

"...I don't believe you. But suppose it were true, then why *did* you ally yourself with the Demon Lord? Would it not have been better to ally yourself with us humans?"

"Of course I wanted to, but say I did, would the Hero or anyone else in the party seriously believe a demon like me would ally with humans?"

Would a group of justice freaks really take the time to listen to a word I say? No, they'd just see me as a strong looking demon and immediately categorize me as an enemy. That's what the Hero would do, obviously the Mage bitch too, and of course the Swordsman would be no exception.

I can't see us becoming friends. Even if I did somehow befriend the cleric, there was still the pretty boy Hero, bitchy Mage, and taciturn Swordsman to deal with. There's no way they'd let me in their party.

Even if she understood where I was coming from, she kept quiet about it.

"Still, Hero-kun and the others are powerful enough to defeat the Demon Lord."

He is a Hero after all.
The Swordsman and Mage are the real deal too, so they should be fine.

"...Wouldn't it have been faster to kill the Demon Lord yourself?"

"Nuh-uh, not happening. In human terms, if a soldier killed the king, what do you think would happen?"

I propose the question to her.

"...At worst, they'd be executed; if they managed to escape, they'd be a wanted criminal."

"It's not like that with demons. You defeat the Demon Lord, you're more likely to be crowned the next Demon Lord. That's not for me."

It'd be a little weird because of my low rank, but if I did become the Demon Lord then I would be fated to be taken down. Beyond other demons, sooner or later humans would come to defeat me as well.

"I say I'm protecting this room, but it's more that I'm a shut-in, and it's been quite boring."

And then the Hero Party appeared.

"I was honestly gonna let you guys defeat me when you came, but I ruined any chance of that when I got too excited and was overcome by my old Chuunibyou..."

And proceeded to wipe the floor with them.

"I figured the world would be in trouble if I left things like that, so I decided to heal you up and send you to that nearby village. And then when I saw you it was love at first sight..."

"I...see."

"I watched you for that whole month we fought. But then I realized that at this rate world peace would be impossible. I thought that I shouldn't hold you back in this room anymore, so today I made up my mind to confess."

Sadly I ended up trying to die honorably.

"The Hero Party will defeat the Demon Lord. Then I'll lose my home. You turned me down too. That's why there's nothing left for me."

My time being reincarnated as a Demon was at an end.
The room fell silent.
After a few moments, she slowly opened her mouth.

"...That's unacceptable. You have great power. So much so that our Hero Party wasn't a match for you. Please, won't you use that power for us humans?"

She suddenly started giving a speech.

"...For starters, you have enough power that you can disguise yourself as a human, don't you? If you do, you should be able to meld into human society seamlessly."

How did this turn of events come about?
Even though I wasn't quite following what she was saying, she continued.

"So...Come with me to the outside world."

She reached her hand out to me.
Apparently it was time for me to graduate from being a shut-in.
That day, the Demon Lord was defeated and peace returned.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 3

ギルドに登録してみた

I tried joining a guild.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, Flyingjam, and Sumguy

The news of the Demon Lord's defeat at the hands of the heroes spread, and the world rejoiced.
Every town, village, and country held celebrations in honor of the heroes.
Of course, the imperial city Minerva in the Clariness Kingdom that had selected the heroes held a grand parade in their honor.

So, during that joyous event, I went to the Guild.
It was a considerably sturdy looking two-story building.

That day, Cecilia ended my days of being a shut-in, and I stealthily left the castle.
The heroes were successfully convinced that I had kicked the bucket.
I used the map Cecilia gave me, and finally arrived in the imperial city, Minerva.

"I left first, so just how did the Hero Party get here ahead of me?"

I was surprised to see the principal members of Hero Party already here.
And of course, Cecilia was with them.

"Did I get lost somehow? ...I suppose that path I took was pretty roundabout, so it's highly likely."

Actually, on my way here I saw cat-eared, dog-eared, and all sorts of other animal-eared people along with some beautiful elves that ignited my passion for fantasy.
So I may have unknowingly taken a slight detour.

But, I still made it to Minerva in one piece, so I won't dwell on it.
While thinking about that, I enter the classic RPG world guild hall.

Inside, there was even a wet bar.

It was about noon, so I didn't see anyone drinking yet, but there were people eating a meal here and there.
Since I wasn't hungry, I went straight to the reception desk.

"Excuse Mee~, I'd like to join the guild..."

No one was at the reception desk so I tried calling out for someone.
A male worker came out from the back when I did..

"Huh? The festival's parade is today—I was sure no one would come..."

He lazily walked in while scratching his unkempt hair..
His eyes looked like the ones on a dead fish...is this guy okay?

And isn't the receptionist supposed to be a pretty Lady?
...Well, I didn't come to the guild just to see pretty ladies, so whatever.

"I'd like to join the guild..."

He may not have heard me the first time, so I repeated myself.
The male receptionist scratched his head again, and apathetically replied,

"Ya wanna join? Nearly all the staff are on vacation today...now where was it?"

There was certainly a lot of paperwork on the desk, and he was randomly searching for the right one.
Hey hey...is this guy *really* okay?

"Fer cryin' out loud, they all say they wanna see the Hero and fuck off...ah, what a pain in the ass."

Don't swear in front of your customers! Though I understand the staff who suddenly took time off are also at fault.
But really, why was this guy the only one left?
All things considered, they should have at least left one more person here besides this guy.

He kept bitching about his co-workers while looking for the paper, then finally found it.

"Ah, here it is. Fill out the required information here. Well, I say fill out, but it's just your name, age, and the exclusion clause that we're not liable if you die on the job."

He handed me the paper while giving me instructions, and I filled out all the required parts.

"Name, Youki. Age, 21. Gotcha. Here's your guild card."

He said ambiguously, and gave me a square pocket-sized guild card.

"It'll cost you to replace it, so be careful not to lose it—at least for the next three days...I don't wanna be the one to go through that irritating procedure."

Seems like the rest of the staff are off for the next three days.
Do you really hate work that much?
There's no limit to your laziness.

"Right...understood."

I left my reply at that.
...Anyway, I'm not gonna lose it...probably.

"Then we're done here. You'll start off at the lowest F-rank and work your way up from there. Take your time and give it your best. ...No wait, give it your best in three days. Do that, and it'll save me a shitton of work I don't wanna do like processings quests and other bullshit."

How lazy can a guy get?!
I totally ignored what he said and went out to complete a bunch of different quests.
He said it was a pain, but whatever.

I took the gold I earned from my quests, got a bed at an inn, flopped myself down on it and thought about what I should do from here on out.

I chose an inn near the guild that wasn't too expensive. Although cheap, the food I got was delicious, so I figure I made a good choice.

(If I keep on like this, my rank will increase, as well as my earnings. And once my livelihood reaches a certain point...I'll confess to Cecilia once again.)

I haven't given up just yet.
I'm living the dream of being reincarnated into a fantasy world with a cheat-level power, but since I was a demon, I had hidden myself away in the Demon Castle.

I can't give up after my Goddess Cecilia showed me the way.

(Heh heh heh...I'll definitely win her love.)

I got excited thinking about Cecilia, and after getting into Chuuni-mode, I wasn't able to go to sleep for a while.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 4

招待されてみた

I tried being invited.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo

I've been in the guild for a week.
I did well on quests, and even rose to rank D.
As usual, I came to the guild to report my finished quest.

"Hey, the pretty Ladies are over there ya'nno? That's why everyone's getting their requests processed over there. Why the hell are you bothering to come over here?"

He asked me with obvious irritation.
I wondered the same thing.

"Well, when I first came here I was expecting something like a pretty Lady at the reception desk. But, I dunno, I just got used to Clayman as my receptionist."

"'Got used to' my ass! You're increasing the shit I have to do!"

His voice echoed throughout the Guild.
Clayman was the staff member that processed my registration when I first came to the Guild.

3 days after I registered, the other staff returned, but I still had him process my quests.
Since it's Clayman, despite his complaining he still did his job properly.

"Even so, it doesn't matter, work is work. Quit your complaining."

There's no good reason not to come to him.

"No, this wasn't my job in the first place. The only reason I was there was because the rest of the staff took time off on the day of the Hero Parade." He continued to complain while processing the oh-so-annoying quest.
And so, as he bitched about work while still doing it properly, and me throwing in some side commentary, there was a sudden commotion at the Guild entrance.

"Huh? Did something happen?"

Clayman leaned over his desk to get a look at the entrance, and I also looked back to see the cause of the commotion.

“Excuse me, could you let me through please?”

My Goddess Cecilia is here. All around you could hear people asking what the hero Cecilia-*sama* was doing in a place like this.
The general mood was similar to an Idol's concert from my previous life.
Even Clayman, the ever troublesome guy who always did things at his own pace, is a little taken aback.

She slowly made her towards me.

"Forgive me for not contacting you sooner."

I and the guild members in my vicinity turned to stone seeing her lowering her head to apologize.
Only Clayman remained unfazed, his eyes languid as always as he watched the event unfold.

“Let’s discuss this further in my home.”

With a 'let us depart', she took the hand of my stone-like self.
And just like that she led me out of the guild.
After we left the guild was in an uproar, gossiping up a storm.

Upon exiting, we hopped into the carriage she came in. The coachman eyed me suspiciously, but lowered his head after Cecilia explained.
This is the first time I've experienced the bumpy ride of a horse-drawn carriage.

"I had really intended to meet with you sooner, however between the Parade and the Parties it seems time managed to slip away from me..."

She apologizes and lowers her head again. It wasn't like I wanted her to apologize, but...

"Well, it was my first time outside the castle, and at long last I got to enjoy everyday life in another world. So I don't really mind at all!"

"...Well I'm glad you think of it that way."

Somehow, she still seemed down so I changed the topic.

"Come to think of it, I'm impressed you were able to find me."

"...At first I wondered what I would do. I had no idea what your disguised form looked like. And so I looked into guilds around here with recent new members."

I see, that probably took a lot of effort.

"...Still I was able to locate you sooner than expected."

W-what’s this?

"You did not change your name, even your appearance isn't that different...just what were you thinking?"

"What are you talking about? I totally changed!"

When I was with the demons I already didn't look like much of one, I had the boring face of a human.
If I had to name a problem, it would likely be the splendid horns on my forehead and black wings growing out of my back.

"I put up with the pain, broke off my horns, and even removed my wings."

I could grow them back if I wanted, however I have no intention to do so at the moment.

"...Be that as it may, my hero party knows your face. At the very least please wear some glasses."

Like that, in the middle of our discussion on my disguise, the carriage suddenly stopped.
We appeared to have reached our destination, and at the coachman's proclamation we exited the carriage.

“...Geez, it’s huge.”

In front of me stood a large mansion. In front of the gate were two soldier-like people.
After exiting the carriage with Cecilia, I followed to enter the mansion but was stopped by the guards.

"My lady, welcome home...who exactly is this man?"

The guards had me at spear point. Hey now, are we really doing this?

"Lower your spears at once! He is my dear friend."

They put down their spears. There was still some uneasiness, but they would not defy Cecilia.
I could feel the guards staring daggers at me while I accompanied Cecilia inside her mansion.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 5

一歩前進してみた

I tried to step forward.

Translation by Solistia

“Could you please leave the guild?”

“What!?”

That’s strange. What kind of situation is this?
I was invited to the mansion Cecilia lives in, and now we're in her room.
We both sat on the bed in a room that had the cleanliness you'd expect of a woman.

“...Forgive me. That was an insufficient explanation .”

I think that's more than just 'insufficient'. I wonder why exactly she wants me to leave the guild?

"The Demon Lord has now been vanquished by the Hero. However, the danger of all the demons still remains."

Well, I guess that’s true.
That's why I work in the guild, to diminish the damage of the demons.
But she continues,

"...Yet the danger is not limited to demons. There's likely to be conflict between humans now."

Sounds like war. You'd think after killing the Demon Lord there'd be a little bit of peace.
Even though it's a fantasy world, war still exists between humans.

"In particular, there's rumors that the Gallis Empire, a militarized nation, has already begun preparing weapons."

"But what does that have to do with me?"

“Even in the Clariness Kingdom, each country has begun amassing the most talented people. Already, there's a mountain of engagement talks for the Hero from every nation's princesses and young noble ladies.”

As expected of Hero-*kun*.
Rather than politics, it appears he's drowning in fervent pursuers.

"It's not only the Hero, the rest of the party has also received such proposals."

I just heard something I really didn't need to hear.

"They're even coming in for you?!"

I leaned in and pressed her for an answer.

"Of course, I've received some...but I've refused them. ...And, don't interrupt when I'm in the middle of talking."

I returned to my original position after being relieved.

"So what I was trying to say was, there's a good possibility that if you become famous now the other nations will want to recruit you as well."

"Then what exactly do you want me to do?"

If I temporarily leave the guild, what am I supposed to do with myself?

"And therefore, I'd like to personally hire you, and compensate you with payment."

If that's the case, then my renown would certainly be less than if I worked at the guild.

"...Are you sure you can afford that much?"

A noble lady though she may be, there must be a limit to the amount of money she can spare.

"You are undoubtedly strong, and I'm sure you would achieve no less than an S-rank in your guild. Honestly, there's no way I could afford someone so superior by myself."

Well, I wouldn't mind if she took advantage of my love for her to hire me cheaply,
However, she's the type that would hate that sort of thing.

"I am aware that you harbor feelings for me. That's why...don't..."
She hugged her body inward with a sad look on her face...I see where this is going...

"Don't say anything else!"

I stopped guessing what she was trying to say. I spoke with zeal in a firm tone.

"I want my love for you be fulfilled, but not like this! ...Bwahahaha, you forget, I have my cheat. Assassins and spies from other countries are no match for me. Being seduced is out of the question. The only one for me is you!"

Halfway through in my excitement I started into my *chuunibyou* act. So at the end I struck a pose. Around the time my mind froze, her essential reaction was...

“...*snicker*”

She tried to stop herself from laughing.
However she couldn’t handle it and busted a gut.

"....Ahahahahahaaa, I'm sorry...I couldn't take it anymore. Pahaha..."

And so she just kept laughing. As time went by she settled down and caught her breath.

"...Haaa, my apologies, I didn't expect such a reply and was laughing before I knew it."

“ No no, I got too passionate and it looks like I said some outrageous things.”

I desperately explained myself. Apparently that was funny too and enticed a bit more laughter from her.
When the laughter settled down again, for some reason she spoke in a low whisper.

"More and more I'm starting to believe your story that you're not a demon. No other demon could be so funny."

"Eh?! You still didn't believe me? ...And why the whispering?"

I was shocked.
I was under the impression she believed me about my death.

"Oh no, I guess you could say I was double checking. As for the whispering, I think you'll understand soon. That reminds me...lets talk a little more. It's just a small personal request."

...Could it be I've missed a lucky chance?
Just like that, this snickering and laughing girl steeled herself as she looked at me.

So she and the resurrected me had a chat.
Time passed, and because she had plans after this it was time to leave.

"I had fun today. Let's meet again, ok? I'll contact you."

"I had fun too. Also, before I go I have one last request..."
My face was hot. Should I do this? Won't she turn me down?

“What is it?”

With grim determination I said,

"Would it be alright if I call you just Cecilia from now on?"

I went and said it.
After I finished my face got hot.
I'm sure it was burning bright red right about now. A small smile alighted her face.

“That’s fine. And I shall call you Youki-*san*.”

Hell yeeaaah!
In my heart I had a little victory dance.

"Well then, once again, I'll see you soon, Youki-*san*."

“See ya, Cecilia.”

I made my way out of her mansion.

Now, I laid down on an a bed at the Inn, but couldn't stop grinning.
I feel like my relationship with Cecilia took a step forward. What a day. By the way, although inconsequential, the next day when I went to the guild I was shoved around and bombarded with questions.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 6

友人を作ってみた

I tried making a friend.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo

The sky is vibrant blue, and the wind is blowing just right.
Even the temperature's in that perfect sweet spot between hot and cold.
As such, the weather proved it's the ideal time to meet Cecilia at her mansion for our planned rendezvous.

"Man, the weather is so nice today~ I even get to meet with Cecilia, today's gonna be a great day off!"

I'm in such high spirits, that I'm skipping all the way there.
Everything is fine up until that moment.
The problem stood in front of Cecilia's mansion.

"...Wha? I can't go in?! Why not? I know I made an appointment."

Arriving at the mansion, I was stopped by the same two guards as last time. What's more, they're staring daggers at me again.

"Right now M'Lady is having a meeting with the Hero. What's more, we simply don't trust you. Now take your leave!"

What are they talking about?
So the Hero came or whatever, I'm the one who made an appointment!

"If that's the case, at least let me wait until they're done."

To get here I had to walk what would have taken a carriage 10 minutes.
No way I'm leaving until I see Cecilia.

"...Enough! If you don't leave now, I'll..."

Saying that, the guard came at me with his spear.
Hey now, is this guy right in the head?
Frankly, I could take these guys out in 3 seconds flat, but I'm convinced that would only make things worse.

It would also cause problems for Cecilia.

"Tch, fine, I got it! I'll leave!"

I clicked my tongue at them, and went back the way I came.
From behind I hear them saying something about never letting me see Cecilia again. It made me angry, but I endured it as I left the mansion.

***

"Aah, damn it, that makes me mad."

I'm in the worst possible mood.
The previously happy mood is nowhere to be found.

“Assholes, I'll remember this next time!”

I kicked the ground as I cursed them.
Today is supposed to be my day off so I didn't feel like going to the guild either.

It couldn't be helped so I wandered around the town all by my lonesome.
Wandering about, I saw a crowd gathering.

As I compared it to the paparazzi from my previous life. I took a look at the center of the spectacle.
As I did...

(What's this? I feel like I've seen him somewhere before. That face...)

It was a pretty boy at the center. He had a sword at his hip, a sharp gaze, and gave off a 'cool' impression.

(Ah. I remember. He was the Hero Party’s Swordsman-*kun*.)

Hero-*kun* is a refreshing kind of pretty boy, but Swordsman-*kun* is a pretty boy with an imposing air about him. But now he looked both troubled and confused.
(In a way, I’m starting to feel bad for him)

Perhaps it’s because I was also feeling unfortunate today that I went to help him.

(Can't be helped, I guess I'll give him a hand.)

I pointed my finger away from the swordsman and yelled,

"Oh look, there's the Hero!"

Or so I said.
Then, there were shrieks of '*Kyaa*' and 'Hero-*sama*' as they took off to the direction I pointed to.
Just as I thought, Hero-*kun* is more popular.

"Ha, piece of cake."

It went so perfectly according to plan, I had to laugh.
Looking back, with everyone gone you wouldn't have believed there'd been such a huge crowd earlier. Unable to grasp the situation, the swordsman of the Hero Party looked flabbergasted.

"Y'know, you should use this chance to escape."

I pulled him along by the arm and took him to a less prominent area.

"Phew...We should be ok around here."

We went to an alleyway a bit away from the previous spot.
It was a dim and ominous place, but I doubt anyone else would come here.

"..."

Hey hey, even now you're gonna act like the cool guy?
Well, it's not like I'm expecting to get thanked for saving him or anything.

"Bye then. Next time wear a disguise when you walk around town."

And so I left.
Perhaps I was a bit too cocky?
Well, I saved him, and gave him some advice, so we'll call it even.

Thinking about that I set out to wander again by my lonesome, however...

"Wa...wait a minute!"

"...Huh?"

Suddenly, I heard a strange voice.
It was nothing more than a voice calling out.

The problem lied in that it sounded like a voice that belonged to a professionally acted anime character from my previous life.
But here, in this deserted alleyway, there was only me and Swordsman-*kun*.
...So that means.

"So the person that spoke just now was..."

He is timidly poking his fingers together and after a moment he nods.
... No wait, something's wrong here!!
This cool and handsome guy actually spoke with an anime-like voice?

"...let me get this straight, that voice is the reason you hardly ever say a word?"

“...yeah.”

That's an affirmative.
I see, no doubt he's developed a complex about it.
He tried to hide it so no one would find out.

"Well, everyone has something about themselves they don't want broadcasted to the world. Even I have something like that."

“...You’re not gonna make fun of my voice?”

"It's not like it's your fault. Plus, I have plenty of things about myself that I don't like. There's not a person out there that has no faults."

And of course in my case it's that I'm from the demon race.
It's a complex that won't go away and can't be cured.

"...You're a weird guy. Usually when people first hear my voice, they would make fun of me or laugh at me."

Seems like he had a rough time because of that voice.
So that's why he became the cool, silent type.

"I won't laugh. I've even seen other guys with a voice like that. "

Only on TV though.

“...I see.”

A little smile appeared on his face.
I guess he was just glad I didn't make fun of him.

I thought it over, and I was speaking to him casually like I would with a good friend.
...Was I being too disrespectful?
Oh crap, no matter which way I think about it, I must be!

“Well then, I’ll just be going over here…”

I decided to escape before he could say anything.

“Wait a minute!”

I was stopped.
This is bad, is he gonna take me to the guards?

"Wha, what is it?"

I started sweating like crazy.

However, the words he spoke were not what I expected.

"I was wondering...if we could be friends?"

“Eh?”

I can't believe he asked if we could be friends.
Honestly, it relieved me.

"Well, I mean...only if you want to. It's just, my mom and cousin are the only ones who never laughed at my voice before, so without thinking I kind of..."

What on earth did he do while he was in the Hero Party?
Well, it's not like I mind having a new friend.
On the contrary, it should have been me asking him.

"I was also thinking it'd be nice to be friends. I'm Youki. Nice to meet you."

"...Really? Thank you! You probably already know, but I'm Raven. Nice to meet you too."

We shook hands with a firm grip.
It was the first time in the 20 years since I was reincarnated that I made a friend.

I couldn't meet with Cecilia, but since I made a friend, today's day off turned out to be worthwhile.

"You know Youki, I feel like we've met somewhere before..."

"...Y-you sure you’re not imagining things?"

I broke into a cold sweat.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 7

好きな子の母親と会ってみた

I tried meeting the mother of the girl I like.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, and Flyingjam

It's only been a few days since I became friends with Raven.
And right now...

I'm stuffing my face eating breakfast in the guild.
It's vegetable and bean soup with rye bread—I have some funds saved, but I'm still going to eat frugally.
If my parents had made anything like that I would've complained the moment I laid eyes on it.
However, in this world it's fairly standard fare.
The crazy part is, now I don't even feel like doing any quests unless I eat it.

"Oho, what an extraordinary way to eat."

A voice called out suddenly.
I was in the middle of eating, but at some point, a lady sat down at my table. I was so surprised I stopped mid-bite.

"Oh my, what's wrong? If you're still eating why don't you go ahead and finish?"

Well then, I won't hold back and resume eating.
Like that, she continued to watch me, moreover with a giggling smile.
...Come to think of it, who exactly is she?
I don't remember being this close to such a beautiful lady during any of my quests.
While eating, I ransacked my brain but came up with nothing.

"It's just like my daughter said. You truly are entertaining."

...?
Like her daughter said?
I thought '*It couldn't be*', and dropped the rye bread in my hand.

"Oh my, it seems I haven't yet introduced myself. I am Celia Aquarain, Cecilia's mother. Pleased to meet you, Youki-*kun*?"

Whaaaaaaaat!?
Why did Cecilia's mom come to the guild so early in the morning????

"Oh my, aren't you still eating? Then I shall wait until you're finished."

I practically inhaled it.
I don't think I ever ate a meal so fast in either of my lives.
It was more like gulping down a drink than eating.
It made for quite a breakfast.

"Oho...You really don't have to rush yourself on my account. You truly are most interesting."

I finish off my last bite with a swig of milk.
After a short pause, I' m ready to listen to Celia-*san*'s story.

"...So, what did you need to talk to me about?"

"In truth, the other day it was reported that our family's guards were quite rude to you. For that, I came to apologize."

Waitwaitwaitwait.
I can't think of any reason why Celia-*san* had to be the one to come.
Heck, you should' ve sent the guards instead.
Why would the lady of the house come herself?

"Ah, they did have a bad attitude...I guess. I was really mad, but thanks to that I met someone new...I guess."

It pained me to receive such an apology, so I tried to get across that I really didn't mind.

"...Oh dear. According to my info, I heard you were quite taken with Cecilia...?"

Oh no!
I think she misunderstood something.
The gentle smile Celia-*san* wore changed, and now she was looking at me with a rather cold gaze.

"You-You're mistaken, a mistake! I just meant that I made a new friend yesterday."

"I see...I wonder exactly what kind of *friendship* you have with this girl?"

"I made a guy friend. A guy."

She still seemed unconvinced, so I made sure to state the gender.

"Oh my, is that so? Dear me, I just jumped to conclusions. If my daughter got mixed up with a scoundrel wouldn't that be just awful? Pardon me, did I scare you perhaps?"

Before my eyes, the frozen smile returned to the earlier gentle smile. I'll keep it secret that I almost shat myself.

"NO, I-AM-JUST-FINE."

No freaking way am I okay. I started driveling.

"Oh? I'm so relieved. Well, it seems like you're all finished eating, so shall we be on our way?"

"WHERE-MIGHT-WE-BE-GO-ING?"

I haven't even completely recovered yet.
The psychological damage was considerable. The amount of time I would need to recover is likely...

"Is it not obvious? To my mansion! You want to see Cecilia-*chan*, don't you?"

Instant recovery.
Something inside me flared.

"Yes, I'll go! Let's be on our way immediately!"

Luckily I hadn't taken on any new quests, so I was in the clear. But I should at least go and tell Clayman he doesn't have to work today for once.

"Clayman! Today. Me no work. Day off. Important stuff. Must do!"

I tell him in frantic speech that was practically gibberish.

"Th-that so? Seems like you're in a hurry there. Well, it'll shorten my stack so what do I care?"

Hearing the answer I about-face and quickly return to Celia-*san*.

"Oh, are you already prepared to go? Then let us be off. We shall make haste to return."

For some reason Celia-*san* is also in a hurry, and just like last time I boarded the carriage and headed for the Aquarain family mansion.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 8

嵌められてみた

I tried getting set up.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, and Flyingjam

Brought along by Celia-*san*, I had once again gotten an invitation to go to the Aquarain family mansion. Right now, I'm standing outside the mansion with Celia-san, however...

"Celia-*san*? The two guards here..."

The guards that once held me at spear point were no longer here.
Two different guards are stationed here instead.

"Oh, the people who were rude to our honored guest...I wonder what became of them?"

It's probably a good thing she didn't know I wasn't human.
I determined it was best left unsaid that I was a demon.
I feel like something terrible would happen if she caught wind...

"As for those two...our head maid gave them a thorough *scolding*."

...what?
Geez, it's not nearly as bad as I thought.

"You know, our head maid used to be an A rank adventurer. For certain reasons she retired from being an adventurer and became a maid instead."

Oh? She sounds rather capable.
I wonder if she works as the captain of the guard too?
So maybe that's why the head maid would be the one to lecture them...?

"She's terribly scary when she's angry. She's very sweet on her husband though."

What are we talking about, a couple of newlyweds here?

"But it seems they once got into a quarrel. Her husband was so seriously injured it took half a year to make a full recovery."

“...”

"But, her husband was also an A rank adventurer. Injuries like that were normal from what I hear."

Scaaaaaary.
What on earth is she?
It took him half a year to fully recover even though they were the same rank? What's going on here?

“But, at the same time, she was also the one who lovingly nursed him back to health. She seemed quite happy to be able to spoil him so."

So in the end they still acted like newlyweds?
I wonder if her husband is really all right?

"...Oh my, speak of the devil!"

I look toward the mansion and see a lady wearing a maid uniform coming our way.

"I'm pleased to see you've returned, Madam."

Greeting Celia-*san*, she angles herself into a lovely bow.
Such a beautiful person couldn't possibly be very old.
Is she really the one from that story Celia-*san* just told me?

"Is this our honored guest? I am the head maid in the employ of the Aquarain family. I am called Sophia."

“Ah...hello. I’m Youki.”

Because she lowered her head to me, I also casually bow.
What's this, she's just a normal person, isn't she?...or so I stupidly thought.

"Sophia, have you finished with *that* business?"

"Regrettably, I have not. I am only halfway done."

I wonder what she’s talking about.

“Not yet? Only halfway?”

"Yes, it is taking quite some time, and though they are repeatedly blacking out I can think of no other method."

"..."

For some reason I feel I shouldn't interrupt them.

"Madam, how many bones shall I break until they are pardoned?"

“Hmm, I’ll leave it up to you, Sophia-*san*. Do as much as you like.”

Seriously, what the hell are they discussing?

"Understood. I shall refrain from doing more than five. Would it be safe to use intermediate level magic I wonder?"

"Indeed...there's only half left, so why not do so?"

"Understood. I shall do so. ...Youki-*sama*, are you feeling unwell? Your complexion appears rather ill."

"Ah no, I'm doing fine. It's just your imagination."

Even if it kills me I don't want to attract their attention.
Just what was the subject of their discussion?
The answer will remain buried in the darkness.

"Very well, then let me guide you to the mansion."

Following Sophia-*san*, we entered the Aquarain residence.
Upon entering the mansion, Celia-*san* pulls me along until we're in front of the familiar door leading to Cecilia's room.
After entering the mansion, with a 'please take your time', Sophia-*san* left us.

"Now Youki-*kun*, please enter when I give the signal."

Carefully, Celia-*san* entered the room.
Soon after, because I was given the cue, I enter as well.

"Wha? What is Youki-*san* doing here?"

It looks like she had just woken up.
Cecilia is in her nightgown with a bad case of bedhead.

"Oh this daughter of mine, sleeping in so late on a day off~"

Celia-*san* is in a corner of the room just giggling and laughing .
I thought it strange that she was off in the corner, but I understood as soon as I saw Cecilia's reaction.
She took the staff leaning on the nearby dresser, focused her attention over here
and...WOAH!

“《Shiny Bolt》!”

The elementary level light magic spell, Shiny Bolt.
A direct hit from the lightning-esque holy light sent me flying out of the room.
It’s so sudden that I can't react in time, and getting hit by magic without any defense up left me laid flat outside the room.

"Get out of my room!"

The door closed with a BAM.
I wish she had said that *before* she laid me out with magic.
Just before the door closed, I saw Celia-*san* chuckling to herself inside the room.
That woman set me up big time.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 9

ヘタレてみた

I tried being incompetent.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, and Flyingjam

For some reason I'm now sitting in the formal Japanese-style *Seiza*.
Really, what can I say for myself?

"Um...Cecilia? My feet are starting to go numb...Would it be alright if I sit on your bed like last time?"

I timidly ask Cecilia.
Cecilia is like a Goddess to me.
I am sure she will grant me mercy...

"Absolutely not. You must reflect upon your actions."

Mercy was not granted to me this day.
Her mouth is pleasant and smiling, but I could see the smile did not reach her eyes.
The feeling she's giving off is...crap, this might be the end.

I could hear giggling off to the side.
In the midst of this mayhem the only person who seems to be enjoying herself is Celia-san.
She kept laughing at the current situation.
...Celia-san was the culprit behind this, you'd think she could give me a hand here.
About the time I was thinking that, my legs had just about reached their limit.

"Cecilia, isn't it about time you forgave him? It's not like he saw you naked. It's just a nightgown."

Ooh! Help has arrived at last!
Even Cecilia's normal demeanor is returning.

"After all, you'll soon be in a relationship where you'll see each other naked, so there's no need to get all flustered over this, is there?"

She dropped a fucking bomb on this conversation?!
This person ain't my ally!

Cecilia's face turned red.
I couldn't move because my legs were numb.
After sitting in *Seiza* for so long, even my Cheat powers couldn't help me now.

"Oh my dear Cecilia, your face is bright red, you know? Could it be you already...?"

I move in to change the topic to stop her from dropping even more bombs.

"By the way, why did you have me come here today? It couldn't be just for this, right?"

Even if it's true, isn't this taking it a bit too far?

"Eh? Of course not. But we couldn't talk before with all of *that* going on."

I listen to Celia-san as she sits on the bed.
Cecilia seems to have recovered and sits beside me.

"The other day, Youki-kun, you came by the mansion, right? In truth, it's rare for Cecilia to invite a man to the residence."

The only reason Cecilia 'invited' me that time was because she wanted to continue our conversation.

"Cecilia doesn't have many male acquaintances. Only the Hero and his swordsman friend come to mind...and here comes this fellow nobody knows anything about! That's why I hid with everyone to see what was going on."

Now that she mentions it, I didn't see anyone else at the mansion aside from the two guards. Considering it's such a huge mansion, I did find it strange that there were no servants about...

"And then, I find you and Cecilia talking and laughing."
I see, she's probably talking about when I entered my *Chuuni*-mode*. ...Which means that...

"Did you perhaps overhear everything I said...?"

"Of course I did. You were so cool, Youki-kun! Like 'The only one for me is you'. I want my own husband to say that to me~e."

Gaaaaah!?
This is terrible! I had already wanted to rid myself of that black stain from my history.
The color drained from my face as my soul left my body, then Celia-san delivered the final blow.

"You even struck a nice pose, didn't you? Everyone in the mansion was mimicking it after that~"

Ahaha...this is even worse.
I hid my face with one hand and with the other I raised my finger in something like a 'wait-a-minute pose'. How could something like a spur of the moment *Chuuni*-mode accident achieve such sudden popularity among the mansion staff? With all her employees imitating me, it’s no wonder she always seemed to be giggling in my direction.

"Please just kill me already..."

"Ohoho, come now...Let's get down to business then, shall we?"

Celia-san's face suddenly became very serious.
Apparently, this was to be a very important discussion.
Cecilia and I also adopted a serious look and listened intently.

"We have had many suitors for Cecilia's hand in marriage."

She has my full attention.
This must be related to my conversation with Cecilia about the nations recruiting talented individuals.
This particular recruitment through an arranged marriage.
I wonder what happened after Cecilia refused all the proposals?

"Among them, there was also a proposal from the Hero."

...What?

"It appears that Hero fellow has feelings for Cecilia."

Something inside me broke.
On one hand, there was a handsome hero who vanquished the Demon Lord and saved the world.
On the other, a boring-faced rank D adventurer hiding the fact that he was a demon.
...I really have no chance, do I?

"Celia-san, is the engagement already...?"

"Ohoho, no worries there. Cecilia already turned him down...but the Hero won't give up so easily, you see?"

After a moment's reprieve I was soon dropped back into hell. Cecilia let out a sigh.

"No way, what's Hero-kun thinking? Wasn't there a mage in the party he could have fallen in love with? Did he have to go by the book and get smitten with the noble lady? He doesn't need to go out of his way to ruin my lovelife!!!"

In my agitation I went and bitched about Hero-kun.
This is bad, I badmouthed him.
Cecilia also saw me get out of line, my face the very picture of irritation.

"Oh my, to say that much about the Hero, you must love Cecilia very much."

Somehow, I was misunderstood in good way.
Even Cecilia looked relieved.

"So I'd like to ask you, Youki-kun...would you like to marry Cecilia? Answer immediately, yes or no."

Cecilia as my wife?! I was so surprised I just about fell into a panic, but managed to stop myself. Hmm...
I let the last lucky chance slip away, and I may not get another chance like this. With Celia-san's blessing, even if we encounter trouble in the future, she would help take care of it.
My answer is...

“I’m sorry, but no.”

I lowered my head. The answer was no.

"...May I ask for your reason?"

"Well, I know it's a very attractive offer. But Cecilia already turned me down when I confessed. That's why I decided to make an honest living and then confess once again."

Celia-san looked directly at me as she listened.
I also want to know what Cecilia thought of my answer, but wait patiently.

"And honestly, talking about marriage this early, ...it's just...that is..."

Shoot! I messed up at the most important part!
Without a chance to give another excuse, Celia-san's serious mask crumbled as she looked at me.

"Ohoho, Youki-kun, you pass! It appears as though my daughter has a good eye, wouldn't you agree?"

?
Not completely understanding, Cecilia and I both head tilt.

"After all, how could I possibly give my precious daughter away to someone I only just met today?"

"Eeehh?! You set me up again?"

"Not at all! It would have been dreadful if a suspicious little *bug* had attached itself to my daughter. That's why I decided to test you."

Cecilia hadn't been given any warning, so she was a little angry.
In any case, being tested means that...

"Suppose I had agreed to the marriage...?"

"I would have called Sophia to *escort* you out of the mansion."

Apparently I had been faced with a fairly dangerous choice.
A barrier I couldn't overcome even with my Cheat.
I also came to understand that Sophia-san is one of those barriers.

"I told you that you passed, didn't I? You don't have to tremble so much...Please be a good friend to Cecilia. You're welcome here anytime, Youki-*kun*."

Seems like Celia-san has approved of me.
...But wait?
Today it seems like I haven't progressed with Cecilia at all. After that, Celia-sa*n* kept talking about Cecilia's childhood, embarrassing her daughter. I heard the legend of Sophia and nearly fainted. And so the fun day came to a close.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 10

元部下と再会してみた

I tried reuniting with my former underlings.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, and Flyingjam

I've come to the Othell Forest today for a quest. It took about five hours by carriage to get here from the imperial city of Minerva.
Even though it's still the middle of the day, the sunlight can't quite get through so it's rather dreary. Sometimes monster growls can be heard, making it a creepy forest.

My rank has risen to C.
Last time at the Aquarain mansion, I learned that Hero-kun had also fallen in love with Cecilia.
I realized it would bad for me to keep on like I was, and I wanted to shorten the difference between Hero-kun and myself even if only a little bit.

So I came to the forest today to slay a rank C monster — Cockatrice — who was causing trouble in the area.

"Geez, petrifying the nearby villagers impulsively at random...just what is it trying to do?"

The cockatrice is a monster with the power of petrification.
But, because it doesn't have any other noteworthy abilities, it's only rank C.
Still, it was a fearsome enough monster for your average villager.

After walking in the forest a while and doing a little bushwhacking, I heard a noise from the bushes ahead.
I stayed vigilant and slowly approached the bush.

“Woah!”

Suddenly, a headless knight jumped out sword swinging.
I avoided the sword with a backstep, and put some distance between us.
With my specialty magic I thought I'd trample him, but...

“....Huh?”

"...What the? Captain, is that you?"

Now that I get a good look this guy was one of my underlings at the Demon Castle: the Duke of Dullahan. The head he was holding to his right had a surprised look.

"I knew it was you, Captain! What happened to your horns and wings? Wait, before that, where have you been all this time? The Captain who never left his room was suddenly missing, the Hero vanquished the Demon Lord, we were all so worried!"

"Eh? Calm down first. Before I get to your questions, why are you here?"

When Cecilia persuaded me that day, there wasn't a moment to spare, so I ended up leaving the Demon Castle without saying a word.
Could it be that the others survived?

"I was searching for you, Captain! Hapyneth and Sheik too, we were all really worried about you!"

Hapyneth is a harpy, and Sheik is a pixie, both of whom were also my former underlings.

"Are they also here in this forest?"

"Yeah, today we decided to search for you here. We planned to rendezvous just a little ways from here. Let's go, Captain!"

I hadn't seen my old underlings in so long, I really wanted to see them again.
Plus, they'd been searching for me all this time.
How could I refuse to meet with them after that?
So Duke led the way, and we arrived at the rendezvous point.

"...Alive..."
"Hooray~! It's the Captain~!"

There was Hapyneth and Sheik, just like Duke said.
Hapyneth narrowed her eyes and looked away, while Sheik had a big smile and gave me a hug.

"...You guys were still alive?"

When the Demon Lord was vanquished by the Hero, I was worried that these guys had been done in as well.
I'm glad they were able to make it out alive.
Angry at my words, standing proud with his legs apart and a hand at his hip, Duke rebelliously replied,

"Don't write us off so easily!"

According to them, that day when the Hero Party came, because I always commanded them to dump the party at the nearby village, they were on standby in another room.
However, no matter how long they waited, I never called for them. Becoming worried, they checked on me in my room and...

“...Captain was gone.”

Hapyneth gave an uncharacteristically lengthy response,

"And then, you know, after the Demon Lord was defeated the three of us ran with our tails between our legs from the castle."

'Ahahaha~' Sheik was laughing.
When I asked what was so funny, apparently when they were running away, Duke was crying out "Captaaaiin!"
That is rather funny, I must admit.

"But, we never doubted that Captain was still alive...that's why we searched all this time."

Even half a month later they were still searching for me.
They sure thought highly of their boss.

"After all, Captain was a shut-in who never left his room. We couldn't help but anxiously wonder where you were."

...What?

"...Left alone...what would you do..."

Wait what?

"Sometimes you’d flip out and start yelling the strangest things~..."

Just a damn minute, what the heck *did* these bastards think of me?

"At least it's good that we finally found you.....Now Captain, I asked you before but just what happened to your horns and wings?"

"I got rid of them."

“...” “...” “...”

After that the reaction varied.
Duke was crying 'what were you thinking?!', and Hapyneth was saying something like 'you finally awakened'.
What's up with that?
And Sheik?
He laughed so hard he was left twitching on the ground.

"Captain! What on earth happened while we were gone?!"

Duke cried and hugged me closely, looking for an explanation.
How could I possibly explain this to them?
Should I just be honest?

"In the Hero party, there was this cute cleric girl. After I confessed to her and got shot down I've been living as a human."

The crying Duke, the callously faced Hapyneth, and the rolfcoptering Sheik.
The three who had previous reacted differently all simultaneously turned to stone.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 11

元部下の願いを叶えてみた

I tried to fulfill the wish of my former underlings.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, and Flyingjam

I lightly slapped my three underlings who had turned to stone to bring them back to their senses.
That summary was probably too simple, so I gave them a more in-depth explanation.

"Captain, why are you chasing the skirt of a *human* girl? Captain's a demon, right? Getting rid of your horns and wings— it's too tragic."

Duke was drowning himself in tears.
Cecilia is the one who invited me out to the world beyond my room.
It's not like I was *just* a skirt chaser.

“...Repulsive.”

That was uncalled for.
Hey, Hapyneth, don't you look away from me!

"Ahahaha, ahahaha～ It's no use, I can't stop laughing!"

'Can't stop' my ass! Quit it Sheik, you're being obnoxious!

"Haaa~ Anyway, right now I'm a human Youki, living a human lifestyle. ...I'm not your captain anymore. I came here for a quest. See ya, live long enough to fall in love, guys."

It's sad but I need to draw the line.
For both Cecilia and these guys.

"No way! Captain is our Captain."
"...That's right."
"I think so too~"

What are these guys thinking?

"No, I mean, I'm living as a human now, I'm no longer a demon."

"So that Cleric girl, she's a looker is she?"
"...Beautiful girl type."
"Forget about her looks, those breasts of hers~"

These guys didn't listen to a word I said.
And Sheik. Why do you know about *that?*

"I'd like to meet her, the human girl Captain fell for."
"...Agreed."
"Me too! Me too!"

What are these guys up to?
While I stood there stunned, those three just carried on with their conversation until they decided on something.

"We have come to a decision; we want to meet the human Captain's in love with."

“Are you *retarded*?!”

What's with this sudden turn of events?
Before they were acting all cool, now they’re all pumped for a meet-and-greet.

"In the first place, I came here for a quest. I need to kill the cockatrice that's been terrorizing the villagers around here. I don't have time to play around with you lot..."

"Roger that!"
"...Move out."
"And we’re off~"

I was going to stop them, but they thoroughly ignored me and headed out into the forest. Sometime later, the threesome came back dragging along the corpse of the cockatrice. Those little shits, at least give me a part to play in my own quest!

"Now we can go!"
"...Mission complete."
"Been a while since I last exercised~"

No matter what I say, they're intent on meeting Cecilia.

"...If you're willing to go that far, you must be prepared, right?"

One hurdle we absolutely have to clear is getting them into the imperial city.

It’s up to me to beat some understanding into them.

"Of course!"
"...Acceptable."
"No worries~"

They seem very determined.
It can't be helped if they're that resolved.
Guess I gotta bring them home with me.
I gave them my okay and they rejoiced. A rather intrepid smile appeared on my face.

Two days later...

With the threesome in tow, I returned to the guild to complete my cockatrice quest.

"Captain...I can barely see...do I really have to wear this?"

"If you take it off there'll be a huge commotion. Well, I would eliminate any commotion before it got started with my magic, but you get the point."

Duke was wearing a helmet to keep his head from falling off, and the helmet was strapped to his armor.
This why he just looks like a normal armored knight.

"There are so many amazing things~"

Without his wings, Sheik looks like a normal cute young boy.
His wings are so small they're easily hidden by clothes.
The real problem was...

I could hear the sound of gentle sobbing behind me.

Hapyneth.
She's a harpy so there are feathers all over her arms and legs.

I pondered over how to go about her disguise, and she earned my respect with her earnestness.
The result was...

“...Who will want to marry me now?”

It wasn't so much a full-body waxing as it was a full-body *plucking*.
...It might have been overkill, but it’s what she wanted.

There were no regrets.
Duke said 'Captain, this is too much!', and even Sheik was all 'I can't even laugh about this...'.

...Even so, she didn't regret it.
As such, thanks to me they were able to pass as humans and accompany me back.
We went to see the lazy receptionist Clayman at his desk.

"Clayman, I've completed the quest to slay the cockatrice. I've already given the corpse to another staff member."

"M'kay, then I'll finish processing it...Yeesh, what a pain in the ass."

Clayman had finally given in. Just recently he stopped directing me to the other receptionists.

"...Hey. 'Those three behind you your friends or somethin'? An armored knight, a brat, and...hey, what's that girly crying for? You do something to her, you scoundrel?"

“Ah, no idea.”

Clayman inclined his head at me as I played dumb. But because it was too troublesome he didn't bother to inquire any further. After he finished, I headed out with my three tagalongs to the Aquarain mansion.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 12

元部下と好きな子に会いに行ってみた

I tried letting my former underlings meet the girl I like.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, and Flyingjam

"You are despicable."

Bringing along my three former underlings we came to Cecilia's mansion. Today, we were fortunate that Cecilia was able to fit us into her schedule and meet with us, however...

“...Kindhearted.”

Hapyneth, why you... I spilled the beans with Cecilia on what I'd done. Cecilia gave Hapyneth a big hug and patted her on the head.
...I'm so jealous!
And here I was sitting Seiza again while being lectured.

"Are you daft, Youki-san? Surely there was a better way to go about her disguise. To think you would pluck all of this poor girl's feathers, even if it's for the sake of making a demon appear human,...reflect upon your actions!"

"It is as you say. I am indeed an idiot."

While I was apologizing, I was finally starting to regret what I had done.
Duke and Sheik were also nodding their heads in agreement.
C'mon, give me a break here guys.
Well, it really is all my fault.
I quickly kneeled and put my head to the floor in Dogeza apologizing, hoping I would be forgiven.

"I must say, this mansion is pretty big."
"...Spacious!"
"Still, the Demon Castle was bigger~"

Duke and Hapyneth made normal observations, but Sheik, that was too rude!
Looking around Cecilia's room, everywhere they looked they saw something new and oogled everything.
Just please don't break anything, I'm begging you...

"So you're his...former subordinates? You're all quite adorable."

Cecilia chuckled watching the threesome.
I wonder if I should tell her a bit more about them.

"They are *now*. When I first met Duke, he wasn't like this at all. Dullahan was super taciturn. And yet, he somehow turned into this flamboyant guy."

I reminisce about our first meeting.
If I remember right, when the Demon Lord gave me my first troop, Duke was my very first underling.
Duke overheard Cecilia and me talking about him and came over to interrupt.

"When we first met, I hated the Captain. He was fairly famous among the Devil Castle's personnel."

Duke raised up his head and talked nostalgically about the past.
But, it's no wonder I was hated.
When Cecilia heard I was famous, she looked impressed. ...I have a feeling she misunderstood something.

"Well, I suppose not so much *famous* as *infamous*."

"Eh? Is that so? I thought for sure you would say he was famous for his great power...or am I mistaken?"

Totally wrong there. If I was famous for that, I wouldn't have been stuck as a mini-boss.

"Captain he...never went outside. He was infamous as a complete shut-in. And there was also what you said to Zekiel-sama that became infamous too."

Hey wait, don't repeat that!
I tried to stop Duke, but Cecilia asked him to continue.

"Our superior Zekiel-sama suddenly ordered Captain to go out and attack some humans. 'Heeeh, Sorry but I can't move from this spot. I was told to never leave this room, you see. Understand this: I will not abandon this room...until I die.' is what he replied."

Another stain from my dark history was brought to light.
Cecilia desperately tried to hold back her laughter.

"Zekiel-sama was so angry he nearly blew his top, and he just left without saying anything. After that, he visited Captain numerous times to get him out. But, our irresponsible Captain's opponent soon tired, and one day he simply stopped asking Captain to attack people."

Cecilia reached her limit and laughed her head off.
I could only manage a bitter smile.
I did a lot of dumb things back then.
...And even now I suppose.

"Well, that rumor got around, and thus the associated hatred. But, once he became my boss, I learned my place."

Through a show of force, naturally.
On the first day my troop assembled Duke attacked me out of nowhere. I wondered what he was thinking.
I'm sure I don't have to say the obvious result.

"But, because he turned the tables and thoroughly *indoctrinated* me, I became who I am today."

Around that time I was still overly excited from being reincarnated.
He was my first underling, and I ended up brainwashing him pretty severely.
But, it's not like I regretted it.

"...How did you end up meeting the other two?"

Cecilia asked after she finished laughing.
Hapyneth and Sheik, huh.
Those two I...

"Speaking of which, where are they?"

Gone.
We were so busy reminiscing we didn't even notice.
At some point they left the room.
This is bad. Disguised though they may be, there was still the worst case scenario to worry about.

"Let's find them quickly. They must still be in the mansion somewhere."

Cecilia, Duke, and I left the room to find the other two.
Those blockheads just running off as they please...

The Aquarain mansion is so big that searching is a huge undertaking.
Entrance, Library, Kitchen. We're running around everywhere and still no sign of them.
While catching our breath, we think about how to locate my missing underlings.

"I got it! Let's see if Sophia-san will help!"

The Head Maid should be very familiar with the estate, so if we can get her to cooperate...
Plus, she’s the kind of person that would appear out of nowhere, so she should be able to find them quickly.

Cecilia was in agreement, and even though Duke had no knowledge of her he also voiced his approval. So we went to Sophia-san's private quarters.

"Just like that. That is the perfect angle for your back. Please remember that angle when you are performing a bow of greeting."

"...Understood!"

...What's this?
Hapyneth is wearing a maid uniform, and Sophia-san is giving her lessons in bowing.
That was the situation we happened upon when we came to the servant's quarters.

"Oh dear. M'lady, Youki-sama, and...a new honored guest? How may I be of service? Right now I'm in the process of training our new maid."

At some point, Hapyneth became a maid-in-training.

"Sophia-san, where exactly did you meet that girl?"

"She was roaming about the mansion. The new maid was scheduled to arrive today, but she appeared to have gotten lost, so I brought her back here."

Sophia inquired if there was any problem.
Yeah, there's a *huge* problem.
After explaining the situation, Hapyneth was released. By the way, there was something fishy about the real new hire, so she ended up being interrogated.

...That's not our fault, right?

"Still I must say it's quite unfortunate. She was a very good study, and would have made an excellent maid."

Sophia-san was really disappointed.
Even Hapyneth was in rather high spirits about the compliment.
Still, there was no way she could be a maid here.
Sophia-san looked back at Hapyneth's regret-filled face as we left the servant's quarters.

"And finally Sheik. Where did that little rascal get off to?"

In a way, this was the scariest part.
Because he's always brimming with curiosity, you never know what he might do.
If we don't find him soon, something terrible is likely to occur.

"...In the garden."

Way to go Hapyneth.
She saw where Sheik had gone.
Still can't quite forgive her for going off on her own though.
Trusting Hapyneth's info we head for the garden.

“Zzzz...zzzzz….”

"What a little cutie. I wonder if he got lost?"

Arriving at the garden, we found Sheik sleeping soundly using Celia-san's lap as a pillow.

Thank goodness. Sheik wasn't found out.
I was wondering what trouble he would have gotten himself in, but it seems those worries were unfounded.

"I'm so relieved."
"Thank goodness."
"...Much relief."

Knowing Sheik's personality, we were all relieved at the same time.

"Oh...? Youki-kun's here. Are the two behind you your friends? ...And it seems that one is a *girl*?"

She inquired while continuing to stroke Sheik's head.
Wait wait, please don't glare at me and Hapyneth.

"Yes. They are my very normal *friends.* And that little guy is also one of them... I hope he didn't cause you any trouble?”

I made sure to heavily emphasize the friend part.
...and I really hope Sheik didn't cause any problems.

"Oh, is that so? I love children, so he wasn't a problem at all. He was running around playing in the garden, and I decided to join him. And so we just kept playing until he finally tuckered out."

I get it now, that's how he ended up napping on her lap. Thankfully everything seems to have worked out fine. When I think about what might have happened if he'd broken anything...I involuntarily shudder.

We found them both safe and sound, and decided to leave as it was getting to be dusk.
While bidding each other farewell, Celia-san and Cecilia said my friends could come back to play anytime.

We went to a nearby hill once we left Minerva proper in order to talk.

"So? Are you happy now?"

"It was a good visit."
"...Very much."
"It was so much fun~"

I see, now we should be able to properly sever ties.

"Then I guess it’s finally time to go our separate ways. I'm gonna head back to the Inn and...No way, you guys aren't gonna say you want to continue on like this, *are you*?"

Well, I guess I already knew the answer...

"I would like to."
"...Obvious conclusion."
"Celia-san's lap pillow was so nice~ I want to lay on her lap again~"

As I feared. Sheik seems to want something a bit different, but close enough.
I always had a feeling they just might...
And thus, Duke, Hapyneth, and Sheik came to live with me in Minerva.

And as it happens, the next day Hapyneth was soon taken away by Sophia-san.
Just where did you get your information from Sophia-san...?

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 13

デートをしてみた

I tried going on a date.

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, Flyingjam, Sumguy, Creed, Frost, and Dair

Today, Celia-san suddenly invited me to the Aquarain mansion.
...But before I got there my shoelaces broke, and a black cat-eared person crossed my path.
The bad omens were aplenty.

“I’ve got a bad feeling about this…. what should I do?”

Even though I said that, since I was invited I didn’t want to just leave, so I entered the mansion.

“...Follow.”

Hapyneth, now the newly hired maid, led me to Celia-san's room.

“...As you will.”

Hapyneth then left with a beautiful bow.
She really looks the part.
As expected of someone hand-picked by Sophia-san.
I had no idea Hapyneth was suited to this kind of work.
I guess it doesn't matter much now. After knocking, I enter the room.

"Oh my, you're here. Please sit down over there."

Celia-san greeted me with a smile.
Since she usually messes with me, I inspect the the room before sitting.
It doesn't look like she's planning anything this time.
Though there might be some bad news.
I sit on the guest sofa as I was told.

"Did you have some business with me today?"

After all the ominous happenings today, I prayed it was good news.

“Actually, I want you to accompany Cecillia on her day off.”

“Day off?”

Sounds like something good after all!
My heart swells in anticipation, and I ask for further details.

"She's getting tired of all the proposals and parties. That's why I want her to be able to relax for a day."

It looks like she’s taking her daughter's well-being into consideration and forcing her to take a break.
Even I've noticed that her stress has been increasing every time I come to see her.

"My goodness, there's so many superfluous proposals and parties. But she's such a conscientious girl, she just can’t flat out refuse them."

That sounds like the Cecilia I know.
So that's why she's being forced to take a break.

"What would you like me to do?"

"It's a long-awaited vacation day, and Cecilia is a girl after all, so I thought a shopping trip would be perfect. But it's too sad for her to go all by herself. So I was hoping you would accompany her?"

In other words, a parent-approved date.
This is a chance I couldn't have even dream of.
A Celia-san approved, undeniable date!

"Yes, understood. Consider it done."

Is such a lucky day really possible?
Maybe those bad omens were just my imagination.
Those shoelaces were old, and meeting the cat-eared person were all coincidences.
That must be it.

"I figured Youki-kun would agree. Cecilia is actually already waiting by the carriage. She's waiting for *you*, so hurry along."

I bow to Celia-san and hurriedly excused myself.
She told me to go all out.
Even if she hadn't, I'm already going on a date with the girl I love.

Of course I'd give it everything I've got.
I hurry to meet up with Cecilia.

"Youki-san. You came at last."

Cecilia was wearing a large straw hat and glasses.
It was different from her usual wear, but I must admit I enjoyed it.

“Sorry, did you wait long?”

I always wanted to use that line.
I never had a chance to say it in my previous life.

"No, it’s fine. I knew that Youki-san would make haste to come. Now, please hurry into the carriage and we’ll be on our way?"

I climb aboard the carriage and we head off to the city.
...Oh no, it's just me and Cecilia, alone together.
Even though it's the second time it's happened, I'm more nervous now since it's a date.

"...Your face is red, are you quite all right?"

Cecilia took a good look at my face and...too close, too close!
My face got even redder, and I backed away from her.
...Shit, I'm super weak against these kinds of things.
Anyway, I tell her nothing's wrong with me.

"...That's good then. If you start feeling unwell, please tell me immediately. Also, these are for you, Youki-san."

I was given a hat and sunglasses...?
What are these for?

"I think it best if you disguise yourself. Just in case."

I see, that's why she's wearing the straw hat and glasses.
I've no doubt that if one of the Hero Party members shopped in town there'd be a huge frenzy.
But why do *I* need a disguise?

"I don't really need one. I'm not very well known."

"If my identity is discovered, you might be in danger from being seen with me."

That was certainly a possibility.
I totally understand, a man's jealousy can be a frightening thing.
But at least Cecilia has a lot of loyal female supporters too.

"Got it. ...I'll do my best to help this be a great day off!"

It's our first date, and though my words may not carry any weight, I still think it's what a man ought to say.

"Heehee, I'll hold you to it."

Cecilia smiled at me.
I have no choice but to give it my all now.
I *will* make this date a success.
Fully resolved, I don the disguise I was given.
With glasses and hat on I was surprised how different I felt.

“Then let’s be on our way.”

We exit the carriage and mix into the crowd.
The pedestrians steal some glances at Cecilia, but they're merely gazing at a random beautiful girl.
We are still in the clear.

I pay no heed to the whispers of people wondering why such a beauty is with *that* guy.
I'm gonna enjoy my very first date to the fullest.

I'm not exactly sure what to do on a date, but we start by heading to a clothing shop, which was a given.

The clothing shop we entered had a lot of female customers.
There were some guys here and there, but nearly all of them were here with their girlfriends.

“What do you think of this?”

Cecilia held the clothes in front of her body, and inquired if I thought it looked good or not.
Getting to enjoy a shopping trip after so long, she had a big smile when she asked me.
Honestly I had no idea how to answer, but she gave me a variety of clothes to choose from, so I pick out the outfit I think would suit her best.

"Then I'll get this one. We should also get something for Youki-san." After deciding on Cecilia's clothes, now it was my turn.
This time, *I’m* the one to pick out a few outfits, and buy the one *she* liked best.

"We managed to get some nice things. Today has been really fun so far. I've been accumulating so much stress lately, it's nice to take a day to relax."

“I’m glad you’re enjoying it.”

The day is still young.
We have plenty of time, and tons of places we can go.
And if we're able to have a lot of fun, I'll be able to see Cecilia smile more.
I bet our friendship levels are increasing too.
After leaving the clothing shop we both smile.
I'm sure Cecilia is thinking the same thing I am, that today will be a great day.
...At least it would have been until that moment.

The incident occurred at the next place we visited.
Near the clothing store was an accessory shop.
Since women are fond of jewelry, I asked her to go there.

“Cecilia, let’s check this place out.”

I'm sure there are plenty of things that will look great on her.
We’ll spend some time here, then go eat—it's perfect.
You might wonder at all the typical first date plans, but all that matters to me is that Cecilia has fun.
I don't need any ulterior motives.

“Accessory shop….is it? I guess that’s fine.”

After Cecilia gave the okay we go to enter the shop, but then a voice calls out to us.

“Eh, can it be? Cecillia?!”

(Full-view)

When we turn around we see, just like us, a hat-and-glasses disguised Hero-kun and that Mage bitch.

So those ominous signs were leading to *this*…

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 14

ダブルデート? をしてみた

I tried going on a “double date”?

Translation by Solistia, Proofed by Hobo, MuscleSpark, Flyingjam, Sumguy, Creed, Frost, and Dair

Hero-kun waved at Cecilia and came towards us.
Man oh man, to think those ominous signs were leading to this...and you are smiling way too much dude...
Pay attention to your Mage lady friend, she's scowling!

"Oh, Cecilia! HEEEY CECILI- Mmph!?"

Hero-kun was yelling out her name when the Mage girl clamped his mouth shut.

"Hey, Yuuga, are you an idiot? I hope you're not forgetting how famous we are now?"

She gave him a whispered lecture.
I easily guessed what she told him.

"She may be a cleric, but when she's walking around incognito you don't just yell out her name, Yuuga! Everyone around us will find out! Use your head for once!"

She came down on him real hard.
But she was absolutely right.
Hero-kun kept his trap shut and nodded his head earnestly.

"Got it. Sorry Mikana, Cecilia."

Hero-kun apologized in a low voice.
He realized he was in the wrong.
Still, it would have been obvious if he'd taken even a second to think about it.

"By the way, what are you doing here Cecilia? It's been a while so me and Mikana decided to take the day off. If you like, why don't we hang out together?"

Hey now, do you not see me standing *right* here?
It’s not like I blend into the background!

"I'm sorry. Although I'm taking the day off as well, I'm already here with my good friend..."

"Good friend?"

After Hero-kun responded to Cecilia's statement, he finally realized that I existed.
He had a weird expression on his face when he saw me.
I guess he has a problem with some other guy being with his crush.

"Aah...then, bring him along."

What the heck, I'm just a tagalong? Without waiting for Cecilia's answer, Hero-kun grabbed her arm and took her into the accessory shop.
Maybe he was just being over-confident, but Cecilia didn't look happy at all.
Me and the Mage girl were left behind, and she took a moment to voice her complaints.

"Dammit, this was supposed to be a date with just me and Yuuga!"

The Mage girl, I think her name name was Mikana?
I'm feeling the same way she is.

"I finally forced him to take a day off with just the two of us...the weather was nice so I invited him to go shopping just like we used to..."

'Like we used to', I wonder if she's childhood friends with Hero-kun?
Haaah...I couldn't help but sigh.
I'm also irritated that my first date got hijacked.

"...Hey you, you like that cleric right? You were together, maybe on a date?"

I was suddenly asked a difficult question.
How should I answer...?

"Hmm, I know the answer without even asking. Give it your best shot. If you do, maybe Yuuga will finally give up on her..."

She was kinda cheering me on.
I thought she was a total bitch, but maybe she was just really devoted to Hero-kun?
My opinion of her slightly improved...

"But with your boring face, I'm not holding out much hope..."

Previous statement withdrawn. She may not be a bitch, but her personality is horrible.
...Still I may think just a *tiny bit* better of her, so I suppose I can call her by name in my internal monologues.

"What are you spacing out for? Just how far are you gonna let those two go on their own? I'm gonna go catch up."

Mikana entered the shop, rudely leaving me behind.
But she's right.
He may not have a chance with Cecilia, but that doesn't mean I should let them cozy up to each other.

I follow Mikana into the shop.

There's a ton of couples in here.
I bet a bunch of guys are buying presents for their girls.

Looking around for her, I finally spot Cecilia.
She's together with Hero-kun, and Mikana also made her way over.

"Oh, Youki-san, I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to leave you behind..."

I know Cecilia isn't at fault, so she doesn't need to apologize.
It was all Hero-kun's fault for forcibly dragging her along.
Of course I don't say this out loud.

"It's ok, I don't mind. Anyway, it looks like there's all kinds of different accessories."

Inside the store were all sorts of accessories; rings, bracelets, necklaces, brooches, and earrings, all ranging from the cheap to the expensive.

"Since we're here, let's get something. Which one should we buy?"

Hero-kun reacted to what I said.

"Sounds good. Mikana, Cecilia, I'll get something for you."

Hero-kun gave them his best pretty boy smile.
Is this a competition or something?
Saying he'll get something for them, thems fightin' words!
I'm only buying something for Cecilia though!

"Then I'll pick out something too."

And so two men started deliberating between all the accessories.
Mikana looks super happy that Hero-kun is buying something for her.

Cecilia has a forced smile. Probably because Hero-kun started this fight.

"...Now then, which should I get?"

I have never in my two lives picked out a present for a girl, with the only exception being my mother.
...Which one do I get?
I wander around the store until something catches my eye.

"...Ah, this looks nice."

What I found was a reasonably priced necklace.
It may not have been the most expensive thing in the store, but the workmanship was solid, and it didn't *look* cheap.
A good choice if I do say so myself.

"Cecilia, what do you think of this?"

I have Cecilia try it on.
Looks pretty nice on her.
She seems to like it too.
And just when we had a good thing going...

"Cecilia, come try on what I picked out for you."

Hero-kun crowded in between us.
Read the mood, things were just getting good!

Hero-kun brought over an expensive-looking and ornately decorated hairpin.
But the jewels were all cluttered together in an extreme mess.
Hey buddy...don't just pick something that looks expensive. People will doubt your fashion sense.
Even Cecilia and Mikana's faces are uneasy.
Neither of the girls like it.

"Here, try it on."

Hero-kun didn't catch the looks of disdain.
In order to put it on, Hero-kun took off Cecilia's straw hat...wait you retard!!
Everyone but Hero-kun were stupefied.
If you do that then...

"Hey, isn't that Cecilia-sama?!"
"Ohmigawd, isn't that Hero-sama next to her?!"
"Mikana-sama is here too!"

Their identities revealed, the shop erupted into chaos.
Even though I was with them, I was pushed back by the flood of people, and became just another person among the mob of fans.

"Yuuga, you idiot!"
"Cecilia, where are you?!"

"Youki-san, where did you go?!"
"Quit shovin', you're disrupting the shop's business! Everyone get out!"

I demanded everyone leave so they could escape the shop, but the chaos could not be controlled.
More and more people crowded in and barraged the three heroes with questions.

"Hero-sama, who's your favorite?!"
"What about your engagement to the princess?"
"Cecilia-sama, you turned down all your marriage proposals, were you saving yourself for Hero-sama?"
"Mikana-sama, what are your plans?"
"Huh? Wasn't there one more person here...?"

The three were flooded with questions while I was being crushed by the mob.

After 6 hours, the four of us were exhausted.
Once the commotion died down we relaxed in a nearby park.

"...Cecilia, Mikana, oh and you too, do you guys want to go have some dinner..."

"No way in hell!"
"Not going!"
"I shall politely decline!"

In that moment our three hearts became one.
Does this guy, who incited the uproar in the first place, even know what he's saying?
Hero-kun should be just as tired as the rest of us.
I don't want any more trouble today, *thank you very much*.

“Ahaha...right…”

You should think about what you've done first.
The day off I'd been looking forward to so much ended up in shambles.
We were taking the day off to rest, but instead we wore ourselves out.

"Let's just call it a day..."

Everyone agreed with me.
In the end, my first date was a total failure.
Hero-kun...er, *Yuuga*.
I'm gonna remember this...my grudge won't be forgotten anytime soon.

The next day I was summoned by Celia-san...I wonder if I'm gonna be scolded?

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 15

好きな子の見舞いに行ってみた

I tried visiting the girl I like when she was sick.

Translation by Solistia
Proofing/Editing by Hobo, MuscleSpark, Flyingjam, Sumguy, Creed, Frost, Dair, Blesserz, and Friasco

Like yesterday, I came to the Aquarain mansion at Celia-san's invitation.
Honestly, I was still wiped from the huge riot yesterday, but...

"...I wonder what she wants from me? ‘Guess there's no use thinking about it too much..."

I was probably gonna get lectured. The forced day off for her daughter ended up a huge failure.
I'm scared just thinking about the look she's gonna give me.
I wonder if Sophia-san will tag-team with Celia-san?
That might really be the death of me.
Going in would be super scary.
But I steeled myself and entered the mansion.

“...Captain.”

Just like when I came yesterday, Hapyneth guided me through the mansion.
Upon arriving at Celia-san's room, she gave me these parting words,

“...Rest in peace.”

Those were her final words as she left.
Just what horrible fate awaits me?
I knock on the door and enter the room.

“Oh my, welcome. You really came.”

Celia-san was smiling just like yesterday…or so I thought, but upon closer inspection she wasn't really smiling at all.
In fact, she was quite livid.

"I'm sorry to say that Cecilia is sick in bed today. The ruckus from yesterday was more than she could take. When she came home she immediately collapsed."

I am shocked, and quickly jump off the sofa and get closer to Celia-san to get more details.

“Cecilia fainted!? Is she alright!?”

"Calm yourself. She's resting in her room right now."
Celia-san calmed me down and I collapsed to my knees.

“I can’t believe it…”

I can't believe Cecilia fainted.
It's all my fault. I feel the soul crushing guilt enveloping me.

"Now now, don't be too hard on yourself. She’s just a little under the weather. The healer said if she gets a few days of bedrest she'll be right as rain."

Even though it wasn't a bad cold, *I'm* the reason she came down with it...
I can't help but worry about her.

"...Is that so? That’s good then..."

For now, I need to calm down.
Getting all worked up won't help Cecilia recover any faster.

"I'm not really angry with you, Youki-kun. It was *I* who asked you to accompany Cecilia. In fact, the one I'm really angry with is the Hero."

Looks like Celia-san knows the true culprit behind yesterday's events. Her smile suddenly turned cold as ice.

"In fact, the Hero came by a little earlier. I don't know how he got wind of her condition, but he offered to nurse her back to health."

Celia-san's smile became even more dangerous.
It may have just been my imagination, but the room suddenly seemed a lot colder...

"As if I would allow the perpetrator who ruined my adorable daughter's day off to do so. I'm not such a forgiving woman. So I *politely* declined and sent him home."

Celia-san ominously chuckles.
Even though she wasn't talking about me, I still got a chill.
He got what he deserved, but I still feel a *little* sorry for him.
I’m sure it was a very frightening experience.

"However, it was different for you. As I said earlier, *I* was the one that asked you to escort her, so you're not at fault. Even Cecilia said that you did your best to make her day fun."

“Cecilia said that about me?!”

Dammit, if Yuuga and Mikana hadn't come along, that date would have been a total success!
My luck was seriously bad yesterday.

"It's really too bad about yesterday. But if there's another chance, I'll ask you to accompany her again. It seems Cecilia wasn't quite satisfied with how things ended either."

I wonder if that's why Celia-san wanted me to come by today?
Thinking I was depressed, Cecilia may have wanted to cheer me up.
Well, I *hope* that's the real reason.

“Cecilia’s not the only one who thought that. Given the chance, I’d gladly take her out again.”

Yesterday was certainly a disappointment, but I'll make sure the next one is a success.
Celia-san smiles at my response.

"If you like, I'll let you see Cecilia for a little bit before you go home. It's almost time for lunch, so she should wake up soon."

She's still sick, so I wonder if it's a good idea to disturb her. But if it's just for a bit, I'd like to pay her a visit while she's not feeling well.

I knock on Cecilia's door and enter her room. Cecilia is sleeping in bed in her nightgown.
She has a fever so her face is a bit flushed.

"Youki-san, you're here... I'm sorry you have to see me like this..."

She's having a hard time speaking.
Is she really just 'a little under the weather'?
As I thought, I should keep my visit short.

"Don't worry about it, I'll be out of here soon. I just wanted to apologize for yesterday. You finally had a day off, and then..."

I was going to talk about how it was a disaster, but Cecilia spoke first,

"...Youki-san, you did nothing to apologize for. Yesterday...all of us were really at fault."

I shared some of the responsibility, but it's was *mostly* Yuuga's fault.
It's just like Cecilia, not putting the blame on anyone.

...She's way too nice.
But is it really okay to just leave things like that?

"No, it's really my bad."

Her day off was ruined, and her health was compromised.
That is the truth of the matter.
She was trying to not let me blame myself, but this is just who I am.

No matter how many cheats I have, I'm still the same as I was before my reincarnation.

"...Then I'll blame Youki-san for everything."

"Yep, that's right, it's all my fault...eh?"

Just a minute ago she said no one was to blame, now she did a 180 and laid everything on me.

"Youki-san is to blame for wasting my entire day off. …So please make up for it by doing a good job with the next one, okay?"

...Isn't this like a promise to have a second date?
A switch flipped inside of me.

"...Heh, just leave everything to me, babe. Yesterday may have ended in failure, but don't think it will happen again! I will show you the time of your life, you can count on it!"

With a boisterous and self-confident laugh, I ended my speech with my signature pose. It made Cecilia smile.
With this, I think we became a little closer.

Suddenly, I was grabbed firmly by the arms.
Who the hell is ruining my glorious exit?
When I looked, I saw...

"Youki-sama, My Lady is sick. I ask that you please remain quiet while you are in her room...let's have a little talk, shall we? Please excuse us, My Lady."

Sophia-san stood there completely expressionless.
Oh shit, I wanna run, but the aura she's giving off says I don't stand a chance.

Sophia-san gave a quick and beautiful bow, then kept hold of me by the arms and dragged me out of the room.

Cecilia just smiled and waved at me.
I hope she gets well soon, I think as I smile and wave back at her.

After that, I was thoroughly reprimanded by Sophia-san.

Note: Ciph, dude, chillax man, fr srs bro -Solistia

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 16

友人と依頼に行ってみた

I tried giving a friend love advice.

Translation by Solistia
Proofing/Editing by Hobo, MuscleSpark, Flyingjam, Sumguy, Creed, Frost, Dair, Blesserz, and Friasco

It's been a few days since Cecilia recovered from being sick.
Today I came to the guild to work, but...

"He~ey, guess wha~at, lately the little woman has been in a su~uper good mood~"

"I didn't know that..."

How did I get roped into listening to Clayman gush about his wife?
His eyes that were always like a dead fish's are sparkling today.
This usually taciturn guy has completely turned into a giggling schoolgirl. Honestly, it's a pain in the ass..

All the other employees and adventurers I see are avoiding looking at us.
Seems he's been like this all day.
The employees are sighing deeply, and the adventurers are keeping their eyes glued to the table.
Looks like I'm not the only victim here.

...Come to think of it, this guy is married? Congrats man. Just what kind of lady would fall for this sorry sod?
I can't imagine it working out if she wasn't completely complacent.

"I never realized what a great place this was to work. Everyone has been su~uper nice today."

"Uh-huh."

She must be a great wife to make him that happy. If I got married to Cecilia and everyday was full of bliss… Ah, stop stop!
I think I'd end up with the same girly smile in his position.

So I had to listen to him gush about his wife for a long while.
From the reactions I could see of those still in the Guild hall, they'd all heard the same story.

Just when I'd had about enough of this nonsense, there was a commotion at the guild entrance.
I could hear cheers of joy from the previously sullen employees and adventurers who had been face-planted on the tables.

"What's up? It's pretty noisy."

Clayman leaned out over the reception desk to check out what was going on at the guild entrance.
I'm getting a sense of déjà vu here.
Could it be… Cecilia?!
With my hopes high, I turn around and see...

“.....”

...Raven standing there.
He avoids people with hand and body gestures and heads in my direction.
Coming towards me, he jerked his thumb towards the guild entrance.
It looks like he has something to tell me, but he doesn't want to talk with other people around.
I totally get it.

"Clayman, I want to take a quest with Raven, are there any good ones available?"

He probably wanted to go questing with me.
We finally became friends, but never got to hang out together since he spent his time training.

Raven tugged on my sleeve.
You wanna get out of here that quickly, huh?
I guess the guild is making a lot of noise.
Most of it is jeering towards me though.
It's mainly coming from the women, and even the guild employees.

"Oooh, how 'bout this one? There's a quest to defeat a rampaging rock dragon at the foot of Haggers Mountain. If you take a carriage together, you can probably make it back before the day's over."

It's a B-rank mission, and it would just be Raven from the Hero Party and me who just recently become B-rank, but with me having my Cheat we should be fine. ...We could probably even take a higher ranking mission and still be fine.

Accepting the quest, Raven and I head to Haggers Mountain.

"Eh...you didn't want to do a quest?"

It would take 2 hours by carriage to get to Haggers Mountain from Minerva, so we were looking for a carriage headed in that direction.
There were a lot of people around, so we were conversing quietly.

"...I wanted to go out shopping with you. Maybe grab a bite to eat..."

Apparently Raven just wanted to hang out around town.
I mistook it as him wanting to hunt out of town.
Speaking of which, our equipment might be a bit too light for this quest.

"Sorry for the misunderstanding."

I lower my head in a sincere apology. Raven worked as a knight in the castle, so this was probably a rare day off.

"....No, it's okay. It's just the first outing I've ever had with a friend."

Looks like all is forgiven.
I'm glad Raven has such a big heart.

"I got it, let's finish up the quest real quick, then hang out afterwards. If we give it our all, we should make it back by sundown."

"....I see. Let's do that."

Still, there are things we gotta do before then.
Today, Raven was out in casual clothes, not disguising himself at all.
How reckless can you be?
I don't want to go through another huge fiasco, so I should warn him.

"But before we hang out, there is something I absolutely must tell you, okay?"

Not understanding, Raven tilted his head.

"As a member of the Hero party, if you just walk casually around in the city, you're gonna cause a commotion. Didn’t you hear about when the whole Hero Party, aside from you, were caught in the Accessory Shop and it turned into a huge mess just recently?"

I never want to go through that again.
It wiped me out and caused a lot of trouble for the shop.

"....I heard about it. I was wondering what Yuuga and the others were up to. I never would've thought a riot would start with Mikana and Cecilia there..."
Raven has no room to talk.
He wanted to go out on the town without a thought about his fame.
He should know the fangirls of the Hero Party would immediately intercept our little outing.

"I'll lend you the disguise I have. Once you're all set, we can hang out. Well, I say disguise, but it's just hiding your face..."

I should get something to commemorate my first date with Cecilia.
I wasn't able to buy the accessory for her that day, and hadn't had a chance to buy it afterwards.
Exiting the carriage, we head for Haggers Mountain.
If we hurry there, we can cover the distance in a dozen or so minutes.
We travel to the mountain in silence to save our stamina.

The path to Haggers Mountain was steep, and we were attacked by monsters, a Lizardman and a Roc, on the way.
The Lizardman, as the name might imply, was a reptilian humanoid that used a sword and shield.
The Roc was a huge, hawk-like monster.

With Raven's sword and my magic, the enemies weren't a big deal at all.
Even so, we didn't know when and where enemies would come from. We both stayed on our guard and continued in silence, however...

"....Youki, after we're done with this quest, I need your advice on something."

Raven suddenly opened his mouth.
...Don't drop lines that'll trigger your death flag!
But, if it's Raven I'm sure he'll be fine.

"Sure thing. Let's hurry and kill this thing then."

Just then, something stomped in our direction with a huge thudding sound.
....Wait, is this really the death flag at work?

"Here it comes, get ready!"

Raven drew his sword from its sheath and took up a stance.
As a magic user I didn't have a weapon, so I just stood at the ready.
As we did, our target, the Rock Dragon, appeared.

"Here we go. 《Storm Blow》!"

Storm Blow is an Intermediate level magic that, while small in scale, has the power of a tornado.
Hitting the Rock Dragon with this skill, it shaves off some of the hard rock armor.
And thus, it exposes the skin underneath.

“Yes!”

Raven slashed at the exposed skin.
After being cut, the dragon flew into a rage but Raven carefully dodged, and continued to wound the monster with his sword.
The Rock Dragon was unintelligent, so as long as we remained vigilant we wouldn’t get hit.
Even though it's called a dragon, it wasn't much of an opponent.

We kept at it, and safely slew the dragon. ...Thank goodness, the death flag wasn’t triggered after all.

"Good work. I'm glad we got it over with quickly."

I released my magic, and as Raven sheathed his sword and said,

"...Oh right. Let's leave the Rock Dragon's corpse to the guild staff and just take some proof with us."

The Rock Dragon is huge, there's no way we can deal with the corpse by ourselves, so we just bring back a trophy from it.

“Then let’s hang out when we get back.”

After that, we descended Haggers mountain, boarded the carriage and headed back to Minerva.

After getting back to the guild and reporting on our quest, we head for my room at the Inn.
On the way there was a small fuss, but thanks to my previous experience we were able to escape.

“Here are some glasses and a hat. ...It’s quite late already, so we can't do much except get a bite to eat.”

I handed Raven the disguise I had gotten from Cecilia.

“....Aah, this’ll help a lot.”

He donned the hat, and put on the glasses.
....It kinda suits him.
I guess it's true pretty boys look good, no matter what they wear.
The world is so unfair.
Still, at least he shouldn't be found out.

Having a sword might expose him, so we left it in my room.
We walked for about 10 minutes to the eatery.

“...Come to think of it, didn't you have something you wanted to talk about?”

I asked while eating my dinner.
If I remember right, just before we got ambushed by the Rock Dragon he wanted advice on something.

“...Aah, you’ll hear me out?”

I wonder what it’s about, something to do with his voice?
Did someone say something to him?

“The truth is, I’ve fallen in love with someone.”

Unexpectedly, he wanted some love advice.

Author’s Note: The next chapter will follow Raven-kun.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 17

友人の恋愛相談を受けてみた

I tried giving a friend love advice.

Translation by Solistia
Proofing/Editing by Hobo, MuscleSpark, Flyingjam, Sumguy, Creed, Frost, Dair, Blesserz, and Friasco

"You have someone you...*like*?"

I couldn't believe my buddy Raven wanted to ask for *love advice* while we were having dinner together.

"Sorry, Youki. You're the only one I could ask..."

Since he didn't speak much due to his voice, Raven came across as a cool and taciturn character.
If the people around him heard that he had done something so out of character like falling in love, he'd be a laughing stock.

"Yeah…"

And now he's seeking love advice from someone who's struck out on every single love confession over the course of two lives, much less actually gone out with someone.
...Man, I've got a bad feeling about this.
He's asking the wrong person for advice, you know? But I'm still the only one he can ask.

"Tell me, what kind of girl is she?"

I didn't want to give him the cold shoulder since we'd just become friends, so I'll take a shot at giving him advice just this once.

"...She didn't make fun of my voice. She actually thought it sounded nice, and said she was jealous. And then..."
TL Note: Doesn't laugh at voice = BFF or Love Interest….sounds legit

I see. Raven has such a big complex about his voice, I'm sure it made him really happy. Usually people laugh or are surprised at the gap between his appearance and his voice.

"I see, so that's why you fell for her."

It's a more normal love discussion than I thought it would be.
Raven's embarrassment was written all over his red face and cheeks.

“...What do you think I should do?”

From his red face and nervousness, it seems like he's fallen pretty hard.
He's like a middle schooler going through puberty. But because of his voice, forget girls, he couldn't even make a single *guy* friend. He's just lived by the sword all this time.
He's never had anyone to talk to about things like this before.

"If you like her, have you tried confessing?"

He was a member of the Hero Party that saved the world.
He's good looking, and he'd already cleared the hurdle of his odd voice, so I can only imagine he'd get a positive response.

"...I don't think I can. Since I was born I've only ever lived for the sword. Girls are..."

I figured it was something like that.
Geez, you're a good-looking guy, have more confidence!
It can't be helped; I might die a little inside, but it's for a friend.
For the first time in a while, I switch up my game.

"Heh, Raven, you haven't realized it yourself yet, have you?"

I make a grand gesture, pointing at Raven.
Raven is confused by my sudden change of character.
But I don't stop there.

"A handsome visagé, tall in stature, saving the world as the knight of the Hero Party. So what if your voice is a little strange? You should be capable of ignoring anyone who might laugh at you!"

Raven was listening, but looked like he'd been blindsided.
However, I'm not done yet!

"Why, just look at me! A boring face, an average build, working for a guild. Even so, I've confessed countless times! Gotten rejected countless more! But look at me now! Do I look miserable to you? Not in the slightest! ...Raven, you'll do great. Believe in yourself!"

Of course I finish it off with my signature pose.
...Aaah, that was refreshing.

I turn off my Chuuni-mode, and wait for Raven's response.

"...Heeh. I see. So it was something like that."

Raven calmed down, and was laughing a bit.

"...I guess I was overthinking it. Thanks, I'm glad I asked for your advice, Youki."

Oooh!
Seems like my plan worked.
Thank goodness.
I didn't know what I would do if he gave up.

"Hahaha... If you say it like that, *I'm* the one who's glad I gave you advice."

"...Actually, I'm taking tomorrow off as well. I'll try to confess to her. If it's okay with you, I'd really like you to come with me."

I see, he was worried about that.
He had been in a very negative frame of mind.
He had gathered up all his courage and opened the very depths of his heart to his friend.
I was so moved, how could I *not* support him?

"You'll be fine. ...Give it your best shot tomorrow."

With those parting words, we went our separate ways.

The next day, I waited for Raven at the reception desk in the Guildhall.
The Guildhall was noisy and bustling with activity, more so than usual.
The excitement of Raven being there yesterday still lingered. When he comes today, he should be properly disguised so there won't be another riot.

"...Hey, ain'tcha gonna take a quest today?"

Clayman asked me. His happy-mode from yesterday had been replaced by his usual lackadaisical-mode.

"I'm waiting for a friend today. No quests."

Normally, all the other adventurers would ask the pretty ladies at the other reception desks for quests. I was pretty much the only one who came to the apathetic receptionist's, Clayman's, desk.

That's why no one would complain if I loitered around Clayman's desk.
Rather, I was their savior yesterday.

"Well that's just *great*, no work for *me*. Why don't you just stay there all day *doing nothing*?"

"Why do you sound so bummed about spending all day not having to lift a finger? I'm just waiting for a friend."

Clayman and I yak about nothing in particular, when suddenly I'm grabbed by the shoulder and turned around.
There stood Raven wearing the disguise I gave him yesterday.
Maybe it's because he's nervous, but his expression is awfully stiff.

Hey now, we haven't even gotten to the girl's home yet, is he really gonna be okay...?

"You okay? Did you sleep at all last night?"

Raven nodded his head, but even that gesture was stiff.
If we stayed in the guild like this he'd be found out, so I hurry us outside.

Raven is frozen solid, so in order to loosen him up, I take a deep breath and say,

"Listen up, Raven. You're a member of the hero party and a leader of knights. That already makes you a really amazing guy. You can do this, Raven!"

On our way to his sweetheart, I give him some encouragement.
If he can just get a little more confidence, he should be able to confess naturally.

“...Should I really be doing this?”

He's still debilitatingly shy.
I gave him encouragement all the way to the girl's home.
And then, after Raven finally became resolved, our destination turned out to be...

"Eh....?!"

No way, we're at the Aquarain mansion?
Does he like Cecilia?!
She's so nice, there's definitely a chance.
I can think of a million things that might have happened between them on their mission to defeat the Demon Lord.
Did the death flag he raised yesterday mean *I* was gonna kill him for taking my girl?!

"...You have my gratitude, Youki. It’s thanks to you that I have the courage to confess. ...I'll go by myself from here. Please wait for me, Youki."

Raven entered the Aquarain manor alone.
...This is bad!
Would Cecilia accept his confession...what would she do?
I have no idea what kind of relationship they have, so I have no idea how she'll respond.

I panic for a few minutes while I wait outside the Aquarain mansion. But when Raven returned, he had a pretty grave look on his face.

"...She turned me down. She said it was 'impossible'. ...Youki, I'm so sorry, even after you went out of your way give me all that advice. ...As I thought, it wasn’t meant to be with her..."

This isn't good, his eyes are as dead as Clayman's.
His first broken heart dealt quite the emotional damage.
I totally understand, I've had more than my fair share of broken hearts.
But he's my friend, I can't just leave him like this.

"Don't let it bother you too much, man. Anyway, why don't we go somewhere? You're still on holiday, and we didn't get to pal around town much yesterday..."

He heard me, but just shook his head, and said sadly,

"...Let's just call it a day. See ya...later..."

Shoulders drooped despondently, Raven headed back to town.
I couldn't help but watch him as he got smaller in the distance.

...What do I do?
I should be celebrating, but the whole thing left a bad taste in my mouth.
I should be happy to have one less rival, but those feelings never surfaced.

Friendship or love...I couldn't bring myself to give up either.
I was both relieved that Cecilia wasn't stolen away from me, and sad for my friend whose love couldn't come to fruition.

“...I gotta talk to Cecilia.”

I have to know why my friend was rejected.
I might be meddling, but I enter the mansion to find out the reason my friend was turned down.

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 18

友人の恋を応援してみた

I tried supporting my friend's love.

Translation by Solistia
Proofing/Editing by Hobo, MuscleSpark, Flyingjam, Sumguy, Creed, Frost, Dair, Blesserz, Friasco, and Ishman

“He...didn’t even talk to you?”

I went to see Cecilia to ask why she turned Raven down.
I thought she might be reluctant if I asked her flat out, so I beat around the bush a little, however...

"That's right. Raven-san never came to see me. ...Did something happen?"

What's going on here?
I couldn't figure it out by myself, so I let Cecilia in on the situation.

"...I see, could it be he confessed to someone who works here instead?"

If he confessed to one of the maids, we knew just who to ask.

"Let's ask Sophia-san. She's the head maid, she may just know something."

“I’ll go with you.”

Perhaps because they were once comrades, she was now also worried about Raven.
As expected of the kind Cecilia-san.
We both head to the servant's quarters to find Sophia-san.

"Indeed, Raven-sama was here just a short while ago."

When we arrived at the servant's quarters and asked Sophia-san, it was as Cecilia expected.
He had confessed to one of the employees.
Cecilia inquired with Sophia-san further.

“Then, did he need to speak with someone about something?"

"As I recall...he had something to discuss with one of the maids."

As we thought, it was one of the maids.
Just what kind of girl did he confess to?

"Sophia-san, which girl did he ask for?"

As his friend, I wanted to ask the girl what she found wrong with Raven.
Cecilia was also worried, and we both fidgeted while we awaited Sophia-san's answer.

"The new maid, Hapyneth."

"..."
"..."

We both froze on the spot.
My first friend after reincarnating fell in love with one of my former demon underlings.
Cecilia froze without saying a word.

"...Right! Pardon me, Sophia-san, where would Hapyneth happen to be at the moment?"

I had about a million things to ask Hapyneth. Seeing how impatient I looked, Sophia-san recoiled but quickly composed herself.

"...Right now Hapyneth is scheduled to clean the mansion. The mansion is quite large, I do not know exactly where she will be."

The Aquarain mansion was certainly large, but if I ran around the mansion for a few minutes I should find her.

"Thank you so much Sophia-san. I'll leave Cecilia in your capable hands."

Cecilia was still frozen stiff, so I left her in Sophia-san's care and exited the servant's quarters.
After that I ran around the mansion.
I got a few warnings from the other maids about running, but I just gave them a quick apology and continued on.

I ran about the residence three times and finally found Hapyneth.
She was wearing the maid uniform, and sweeping one of the guest rooms.
I had run by here before, but we must have just missed each other.

"...Been a while."

She gave me a small nod, then went back to her cleaning.

"Wait just a minute."

We hadn't even talked about anything yet, so I grip her shoulder, restraining her.
I finally found her, I'm not letting her off with just a greeting.

"...What?"

"Don't you 'what' me! I'm your former captain. Where'd this attitude come from?"

Aren't you the one that desperately searched for me for a month and a half?
Of course, she had never shown me an ounce of respect, even back when we were in the Demon Lord's castle together.

But that didn't matter right now, I would hold back fro the moment, but we would certainly have a good long talk about that later.

"...Problem?"

"Yeah, that's right. Just a little bit ago a good looking guy with a sword at his waist came to you. What did you say to him?"

"...Love confessed, 'Impossible' replied."

She declared with her usual indifferent tone of voice.
Did she turn Raven down the same way?
If she did, that poor guy...

But if I remember right, Raven said she envied his voice at some point.
So that means they met somewhere before.

"You met that swordsman somewhere. Could you tell me when and where you met?"

Hapyneth looked shocked that I would ask such a thing.
But she quickly whirled around, turning her back to me.

"...Impossible."

Refusing to answer, Hapyneth ran away, broom in hand.
I went to chase after her, but there was probably a reason she couldn't say.
It wouldn't solve anything if I caught her and forced her to tell me.

"...I'll figure something out after I go back."

I relay to Cecilia that I'm headed out, then go back to the guild.

"...and that's what happened."

It was already noon when I made it back to the guild, and the bar was crowded with adventurers getting food.
I make my way to my own personal private seat at Clayman's desk, only to find an armored knight sitting there.
Looks like Duke and Clayman are having a pleasant heart-to-heart.
Seems like they’re having fun.

"Ooh~, looks like you have your own set of troubles. If it were me, I'd just f' it all, too much of a hassle."

"What're you guys talking about?"

It made me curious, so I wedged myself in on the conversation.
Clayman and Duke finally took notice of me and gave me a quick greeting.
I couldn't see Duke's expression since he was wearing a helmet, but I got the feeling he was laughing.

"Just a fun story about you, Captain."

Of course he would have omitted any *demonizing* details.
But that wasn't the problem.

"Don't just gossip about someone's past like that!"

There are a mountain of memories I wish I could erase from my dark past.
I can't help but be super worried, wondering which story Duke told him.
Right now, I want to interrogate him, then reprimand him, but this isn't the time for that.

"Good thing I ran into you, Duke. There's something I wanted to ask you, so come with me real quick."

I take him out of the guild and explain the situation.
Duke has known Hapyneth for about as long as I have, give or take a little.
He was quite adept at charming allies.

"Yeah… First, we better get Cecilia-san to help by getting Hapyneth's side of the story. If we don't, Cecilia-san may not be able to help us even if she could."

He's probably right.
But I can't just leave Raven in that state either.

"...Can't be helped, I'll have to go back to Cecilia's place to explain. Let's go, Duke."

"Roger!"

With Duke in tow, I head back to the Aquarain mansion.
We tell Cecilia about Hapyneth's past in her room.

"Well, here's the thing. First, you know Harpy demons are regularly hunted by humans, right?"

Cecilia nodded in acknowledgment.
Harpies are attractive demons, and are often caught and made into slaves, and are endlessly hunted for their feathers.

By the way, I forgot to mention it before, but I didn't sell off the feathers I plucked from Hapyneth; I still had them in my possession.

"Of course Hapyneth was no exception. She was being chased by hunters to a place I just happened to be patrolling. I saved her, and she became one of the Captain's underlings."

Cecilia had a complicated expression on her face.
She was a human just like those hunters.
It wasn't a very pleasant story.

"At first she didn't speak at all. Even now she's still not very talkative."

At first she could only communicate by nodding or shaking her head.
The trauma was considerable.

"That's why I think even if a human said he loved her...she wouldn't have any good feelings about it..."

It makes sense, I feel the same way having known her for so long.
But still, Hapyneth shouldn’t think so badly of Raven.

"Then, why did she say she was jealous of Raven-san's voice?"

"Harpy's are originally a race that like to sing, so it could be she was charmed by his voice, but..."

But we still don't know how the two of them met.
Anything more than that, we could only guess at.
We were in a total deadlock.

"...As for how they met, it may be more prudent to ask Raven instead of Hapyneth."

Hapyneth refused to answer earlier.
And she can be quite stubborn when she wants to.
Knowing her personality, Duke agrees.
Cecilia also nodded her approval at my idea.

"Then we're done here for today. I'll stop by Raven's place on the way home."

Deciding on the next course of action we adjourn our little impromptu meeting, and I head for the Knight's Dormitory where Raven lives.

Arriving at the Knight's Dormitory I wonder just how many people live here.
It could probably house a few hundred knights; it's a gigantic dormitory. When I entered I saw a reception desk, and someone who looked like ae Dorm Manager there.
Upon seeing me, she asked what business I had here.

"Excuse me, I actually came here to meet with my knight friend who lives here..."

The Dorm Manager was a normal lady who looked good in glasses.

"Just to confirm, what is the name of the knight whom you are looking for? And if you could give me your name as well?"

I gave her my name, and then, when I mentioned Raven's name, she pushed up her glasses and gave me a very doubtful look.
Well, Raven is famous after all, and he's not really known to have many friends, so I understand her suspicion.

But even so, she still went to go confirm and left for the dorm interior. After a few minutes I could hear briskly walking footsteps as the Dorm Manager returned with a beautiful stride.

"I have confirmation. Please allow me to guide you to Raven-sama's room."

I follow after the Dorm Manager until we make it to Raven's room.
The Dorm Manager left with a 'please take your time', and returned to the reception desk.

"Raven, I'm coming in."

I knocked and opened the door.
His room was dark, dank, and dreary.
Raven was in the center of the room lying lifeless on his bed.
...He was severely depressed, that much was obvious.
It was his first love after all.
Raven finally noticed I was there and got up from the bed.

"...Youki? Sorry about before. And after you invited me out too."

"No, it's fine. ...Actually I have something I want to ask you."

He may not want to talk about it, but I wanted to support my friend in love.
I'll use any means to elicit an answer out of him.

"I want you to tell me exactly how you met the girl you fell for."

"...What would it change even if you knew?"

He murmured, coming off as though it was all too bothersome.
Shit, he's turning into Clayman, I gotta do something!

"It's too early to give up now! There might be something we can do if we work together.
Please, just tell me."

He finally gave in to my pestering.
Little by little Raven revealed the story.
Man, it wasn't surprising *at all*...

Yuusha Party no Kawaii Ko ga ita no de, Kokuhaku Shite Mita - Chapter 19

友人の後押しをしてみた

I tried helping my friend.

Translation by Solistia
Proofing/Editing by Hobo, MuscleSpark, Flyingjam, Sumguy, Creed, Frost, Dair, Blesserz, and Friasco

Apparently he first met Hapyneth on the day I was out with the rest of the Hero Party when we caused that huge commotion in town.

Raven worked as the Captain of the Knights, but he couldn't communicate with words, so he usually patrolled the imperial city by himself.

Since so many problems were occurring that day, he was patrolling around all the back alleys.

"...Hm. Nothing amiss here."

And as he was about to patrol elsewhere, he heard some hoodlums nearby.

He immediately headed for the voices, and saw Hapyneth cornered by a small gang of thugs.

He easily wiped the floor with them, and was about to leave when,

“...”

Hapyneth had grabbed onto his sleeve, causing him to stop.

"...Thank you."

She thanked him very quietly.

"...Just doing my job."

Usually, when Raven was thanked he would just nod his head in acknowledgement, but he mistakenly replied instead.

Just when he thought his life was over, Hapyneth opened her eyes in surprise.
Raven thought he would be ridiculed, however,

"...Wonderful voice."

Is what she said.
Raven had been made fun of, but never complimented.
So, feeling a little funny, he spoke further and asked a question.

"...You're not gonna make fun of my voice? My voice is really..."

He suddenly asked.
I mean, *I* didn't make fun of his voice, but I didn't compliment it either.

"...Jealous."

"...Eh?"

Raven wasn't finished talking to her, but she took off in a flash.
Raven still had other places to patrol, so he couldn't afford to chase after her.

And so, unable to forget about maid uniform-clad Hapyneth, he began to investigate which household she might work for based on her uniform and finally found it.

Then, he asked me for advice, and after giving him my support, he confessed, which brings us to today.

“...Are we done now?”

After finishing his story, Raven looked really tired.
Raven was, no, *Hapyneth* was the first to show interest in the other party, I'm sure of it.

...Couldn't they at least be friends?
But for the time being, I've got to get Raven out of here before he starts sprouting mushrooms.

I'll go to Duke's place and tell him the information I got about Hapyneth.

"Raven, let's get you out of here. I know a guy who's acquainted with your maid girl, let's go see him."

I'm 'acquainted' with her as well, but...
Raven didn't want to go at first, but after half-dragging him along, we went looking for Duke.

Duke was at Cecilia's home when our little meeting adjourned, so I thought he'd either head to the inn or the guild. On a hunch, I took us to the guild, and there was Duke.

"Huh? Well if it isn't the Captain...is that the bloke that confessed to Hapyneth?"

Noticing Raven, Duke gave him a look over.
Duke views Hapyneth as a precious comrade after all, so he was just making sure Raven wasn't a bad guy.
Duke had always had a strong sense of duty where his comrades were concerned.

"...Youki, is this the guy that knows her? ...And what was that 'Captain' thing all about?"

Raven asked me with a whisper.

"It's kind of a nickname. But that’s not important right now..."

The Guild noticed Raven and started in on the hysterics. I don't want all hell breaking loose on me now.

"You two, let's get out of here."

I grab them both by the wrist, and head for my room at the inn as fast as my legs could carry me.

"Captain, you're way too fast~"

"...I agree."

We finally arrived at the inn after jetting it out of the guild before a commotion could break out, but running at full speed left the other two exhausted.

I accidently ran too fast, but these two should be trained for that kind of thing, they shouldn't be running on empty already.
But more importantly...

"Raven, your voice..."

After Raven realized what he'd done, he clamped his mouth shut.
And with Duke nearby of all things.
Duke actually didn't seem to care about Raven's voice, but asked why we reacted that way.
And so we let him in on Raven's story.

"I don't really mind at all...So, is it you? The guy that likes Hapyneth?"

“…Yeah.”

Raven paused before he answered.
Wh-what's with the tense atmosphere?
These guys, there's no need for pretense here!

"Hapyneth was my former colleague. She has a certain trauma when it comes to dealing with men. You, would you be able to cure Hapyneth of that?"

Making it just men in general instead of humans, I suppose that’s the way it’s gotta be.
It makes sense, since she isn't afraid of Cecilia or Sophia-san at all.

"...I don't know."

There was another pause after he answered.
I suppose it was understandable since they’d barely met.
But that's still not good enough.

"What?! That's where you're supposed say something cool like 'I will heal her fragile heart'! You are a worthless piece of shit. *That's* why your confession was rejected by Hapyneth!"

"...What's that supposed to mean?"

Duke's words were like a slap in the face, and Raven immediately put his hand to his sheathed sword, ready to draw it.

"Oh, you wanna go at it? I don't know much about that Hero Party nonsense, but I'm not gonna lose."

Duke drew his sheathed sword, and stood at the ready.
...Are these guys idiots?
We're in my rented room at the Inn, a room that can barely squeeze six people into it!

It wouldn't be funny if they started a sword-fight here.
I'll get chased out of the inn if I don’t stop these two!

"Chill out guys! If you're gonna fight, do it somewhere else! This is *not* what we got together for."

I brought Duke along to *help* Raven, and now they're at each other's throats.
After begging them to stop, they finally put their swords away, but they were still glaring daggers at each other.

"...Hmph, This is ridiculous. I'll comply with Captain, but *next time* we'll settle this."

“…Indeed.”

They both seemed satisfied with that.
Now I don't have to worry about getting kicked out of the inn.

"Now then, back to the subject of Hapyneth. You said you didn't know if you could cure Hapyneth of her trauma. That's not good enough."

“…I know.”

Raven agreed with Duke.
After calming down, Raven himself realized he lacked the resolve he needed.

"Why don't you start as friends first? I think it'd be a good idea for you to get to know Hapyneth a little more."

That's my Duke!
He gave Raven some solid advice.
Raven seemed satisfied with that too, and nodded his head in agreement.
However, I felt like I'd turned completely invisible to them.

They’d laugh together, they’d arguing together; all in an unending loop.
They were off in their own little world.
I was completely left out, relegated to being a mere spectator.

After a while, their conversation finally came to an end.

"Go show me you're a man! Good luck getting your feelings across to Hapyneth."

"...I will, I feel like I can do it now."

They gave each other a firm handshake.
Honestly, I have no idea how things turned out like this.
Were those two always like this?
I guess love can change both humans and demons.
...What am I even thinking about?

They left for the Aquarain mansion all jazzed up after their conversation.
I was also curious how this would all play out and tagged along.

When we got to the mansion, we were in luck as Hapyneth was cleaning out in front of the gate.
Heartened by Duke, Raven approached Hapyneth.

Noticing us, Hapyneth stopped cleaning for the moment.

"...Please be my friend."

His face was red from embarrassment, and his nerves were so bad he was shaking. Even though his voice was weak, it took all he had just to get that much out.
And Hapyneth's answer,

"...Just friends."

After that, silence lingered between them.
And then, with their faces flushed, they both sprinted off at full speed, Hapyneth to the mansion, and Raven to the main road.

All that remained was a satisfied Duke, and me completely dumbfounded.
Well, I'm sure Raven was also satisfied, now that Hapyneth could gradually become used to human men.

Afterwards I head that Cecilia indirectly urged Hapyneth in that direction.
I had thought Hapyneth agreed a little too easily, but it made sense after hearing Cecilia was giving her encouragement.

And so it seems Hapyneth herself wasn't completely against the idea, since she wasn't forced.

As I thought, I was right that Hapyneth was charmed by his voice.
I'm looking forward to seeing how things develop between them.

By the way, after this, Duke became quite attached to Raven.
TL Note: (º﹃º) heh heh heh -Solistia (The BL Addict)

After the whole incident, they really *did* duke it out.
Although Duke is a great swordsman, even he couldn't win against Raven, but it was quite a good battle I heard. Because of that, Raven used his authority as Captain of the Knights to recruit Duke.

However, this meant Sheik and I were the only ones left at the inn.

"Captain~ Let's play~"

Sheik was clinging to my body.

"'Eey, leggo! I've got a quest to do. Hapyneth, Duke, come back!"

This is the worst thing that could possibly happen. With them gone, I was the only one left to babysit Sheik!

YUSHA PARTY NI KAWAIIKO GA ITANODE KOKUHAKU SITEMITA